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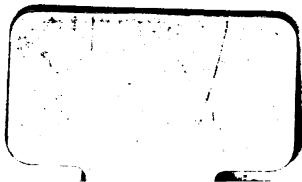
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# SHAKESPEARE'S MACBETH:

WITH THE

CHAPTERS OF HOLLINSHED'S "HISTORIE OF SCOTLAND"  
ON WHICH THE PLAY IS BASED.

ADAPTED FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES, WITH AN INTRODUCTION,  
NOTES, AND A VOCABULARY.

BY

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MDCCLXIV.



## PREFACE.

THIS Edition of *Macbeth* is specially designed for use in Schools and Colleges. The "First Folio" (1623) has been taken as the basis of the text; and, in departing from it, the emendations adopted by Mr Dyce have been more generally followed than those of other commentators. In two or three places it has been thought advisable to omit short passages, the presence of which would have made the work unsuitable for public classes, whether of boys or of young ladies, and the absence of which in no degree mars the development of the plot, or interrupts the line of thought in the particular passages. It is important to observe, that these omissions do not amount to more than twenty-two lines over the whole Play; and that they are omissions, not alterations: this the Editor believes to be the only legitimate way of dealing with passages which, while it may be left to the discretion of the private reader to deal with them as he pleases, certainly become "objectionable" when they have to be publicly read and commented upon in classes of young people.

The chapters of Hollinshed's *Historie*, referring to the reigns of Duncan and Macbeth, have been appended to the Introduction. No one who reads the *Historie* and the Tragedy together can have any doubt of the source to which Shakespeare is indebted for the facts of his Play. These chapters, however, are not printed here for the purpose of giving a historical character to the Play,—enough is said in the Introduction to show that a very different idea is held of its nature,—but in order to exhibit the rough material out of which the Tragedy was framed, side by side with the finished work. It is believed that, if youthful readers are led intelligently to compare and contrast the *Historie* with the tragedy, they will



attain to a higher conception of Shakespeare's greatness as a dramatic artist, than by the perusal of many learned commentaries and philosophical disquisitions. There is in this the further advantage, that it affords a specimen of the ordinary narrative prose of the sixteenth century.

The Notes embrace three different departments of criticism,—the grammatical, the philological, and the æsthetic; the first, as a transition from the ordinary work of English classes to the higher study which the analytic reading of Shakespeare implies,—the second, in connexion with the more minute study of the English language, to which the recent revival of Anglo-Saxon learning has led,—and the third, as an introduction to the study of literature as a fine art, in which we have to examine the artistic construction of the Play, and to trace the development of character. In the Grammatical Notes, the most general principles of Analysis have been adopted; so that they will be easily intelligible to those who have been accustomed to any of the systems now in use. These Notes are also brief; for it seems undesirable that, at this stage, pupils should be detained by the minutiae of grammar longer than is necessary for the elucidation of the Poet's thoughts.

EDINBURGH, *February 1862.*

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#### NOTE TO SECOND EDITION.

THE Editor has taken advantage of the call for a Second Edition, to separate the Etymological from the Critical and Grammatical Notes. He has placed the former in an Alphabetical Vocabulary, a form in which they will be more convenient for reference.

*December 1863.*

## INTRODUCTION.

"THE name of Shakespeare," says Hallam, "is the greatest in our literature : it is the greatest in all literature,"—yet how little do we know of the man who is placed on this pre-eminence ; how little of his personal history, at least ; of his education, of his early life, and even of his professional career ! We have a mighty resultant, it is true, from which we may infer something of the forces that produced it ; but so entirely have the achievements of his sovereign mind engrossed us, that what of him was of the earth, earthy, has, till too late, been allowed to fall into undue insignificance.

The few facts that have been gathered regarding Shakespeare,—for his biography is but a mass of ill-joined fragments,—make his triumph all the more marvellous. He came in between two illiterate generations in his own family ; for we have it on reliable authority, that neither his mother nor his daughter could write her name. His father was at one time chief magistrate of his borough ; but he also was illiterate, as well as improvident, and grossly litigious. Shakespeare's regular education was over by his fifteenth year ; he was married, and "upon the world," by his nineteenth. Where, then, was there time for that extraordinary in-taking that must have preceded this marvellous out-giving ? For though native genius is pre-eminent in Shakespeare, it is genius working upon rich and varied material, indicating a wonderful range of acquired knowledge. As to his early career, accounts are vague and perplexing. We are told that he was a glover and wool-dealer with his father ; that he was certainly a cattle-dealer and butcher ; that he was for some time a country schoolmaster ; and that he spent some years in an attorney's office. In so far as these conclusions are drawn from the acquaintance he displays in his writings with legal or other terms and processes, the inference is a very doubtful one. In that case, Shakespeare, like Homer, must have belonged, not to one trade or profession, but to all ; for with all he shows, for the purposes of his art, equal familiarity ; he is

"Not one, but all mankind's epitome."

As well might the time when Shakespeare lived be called in question, so

applicable are his "thoughts that live" even to our own day ; so true is it that

"He was not of an age, but for all time."

All the facts we know regarding Shakespeare may be thrown into a very brief table :—

A.D.	Age.	
1564.		April 23 (?). Born at Stratford-on-Avon, where his father was a wool-comber.
1571.	7.	At school at Stratford.
1578.	14.	Withdrawn from school, probably owing to his father's misfortunes, and put to wool-combing with his father.
1582.	18.	Married Anne Hathaway, seven or eight years his senior, the daughter of a neighbouring farmer.
1586.	22.	Went to London, having probably met with itinerant players at Stratford, and thereby had his dramatic genius kindled. In London he joined the Blackfriar's Theatre, at first, it is said, in a very humble capacity. We have absolutely no information regarding this part of his career. A tract, published by Greene, the dramatist, in
1592.	28.	Is believed to refer to Shakespeare, and the reference indicates that his success had already excited the jealousy of rivals.
1596.	31.	The Globe Theatre built, to which the Blackfriar's company, with Shakespeare, was transferred. Here he must have prospered ; for we find that in
1597.	33.	He purchased New Place, one of the best houses in his native town, to which he appears already to have had thoughts of retiring.
1598.	34.	Francis Meres published his <i>Wit's Fancy</i> , from which we learn the names of the works of Shakespeare, written and known to the public before this date. The list includes <i>The Merchant of Venice</i> , <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> , <i>Richard the Third</i> , etc., etc. In the same year we find his name at the head of the "cast" for Ben Jonson's <i>Every Man in his Humour</i> .
1601.	37.	Death of his father.
1602.	38.	Purchased an extensive piece of land in Old Stratford.
1603.	39.	Last mention of his name as an actor, in Ben Jonson's <i>Sejanus</i> .
1605.	41.	Purchased a large property at Stratford.
1609.	45.	His sonnets published.
1613.	49.	Bought a house near the Blackfriar's Theatre. Shortly thereafter he appears to have retired to Stratford, and to have ceased to have any connexion with the stage, occupying himself with the supervision of his property, and the affairs of his native town.
1616.	52.	April 23d, Shakespeare died, and was buried on the 25th in Stratford Church.

Shakespeare's literary life, extending from his arrival in London in 1586 till his return to Stratford in 1613, has been divided into three periods, each marked by a certain well-defined character. The first period, which closes with 1593, Shakespeare's 29th year, may be called the *probationary* period in his career; and as compared with his subsequent works, those produced in it, which are chiefly Comedies, indicate the partial maturity of his still youthful mind.

The works belonging to this period are :—

1. Love's Labour Lost (afterwards altered).
2. Comedy of Errors
3. Two Gentlemen of Verona.

Hamlet,  
Romeo and Juliet,

} First sketches,  
afterwards re-  
written.

In the second period, consisting of the succeeding seven years, the dramatist's genius was prolific to a degree which is almost incredible, especially when we consider the magnificent and enduring qualities of the productions. In these few years he produced fifteen original plays, including all his great English Histories, and the eight most famous Comedies, besides altering and adapting four other plays that bear his name. The extraordinary activity of this period in Shakespeare's life, is its most striking feature; viewed, however, in connexion with the development of his mind, it may be termed the *objective* stage, for it is that in which character is exhibited most generally in action, and in which the feelings and passions operate towards certain results rather than as indications of specific mental moods.

In this period he produced :—

4. King Richard II.
5. King Richard III.
6. King John.
7. King Henry iv., Part I.
8. King Henry iv., Part II.
9. King Henry v.
10. King Henry vi., Part I.
11. King Henry vi., Part II.
12. King Henry vi., Part III.
13. Titus Andronicus (doubtful).

14. The Taming of the Shrew.
15. The Merchant of Venice.
16. A Midsummer Night's Dream.
17. All's Well that Ends Well.
18. Much Ado about Nothing.
19. As You Like It.
20. Twelfth Night.
21. Merry Wives of Windsor.
22. Romeo and Juliet (re-written).

But if this is the time of the predominant objectivity of Shakespeare's mind, that which succeeds is pre-eminently its *subjective* period. It is noteworthy that all the three periods are linked together by the tragedy of *Romeo and Juliet*, which having been first sketched towards the close of the first, was re-written at the end of the second, and indeed marks the transition from the mirthful and active tone of that period to the thoughtful and serious vein of the concluding stage. To that period, which began with the first year of the seventeenth century, belong the noblest of Shakespeare's works: there the Poet's imagination takes its loftiest

flights, and at the same time attains to the greatest depth of quiet, powerful, philosophic thought. They are :—

23. Othello.
24. Hamlet (re-written).
25. King Lear.
26. Macbeth.
27. King Henry VIII.
28. Pericles (doubtful).
29. Coriolanus.
30. Julius Cæsar.

31. Antony and Cleopatra.
32. Timon of Athens.
33. Troilus and Cressida.
34. Measure for Measure.
35. Cymbeline.
36. The Winter's Tale.
37. The Tempest.

The tragedy of *Macbeth* (written, according to Malone, in 1606), with which we are at present more immediately concerned, belongs to this latest and most reflective period. It is important to remember this, in estimating the character of that work. It has, no doubt, a historical basis, as may be seen by comparing it with the following chapter of Hollinshed; but it is not as a history, in the same sense as *Richard III.* or *Henry IV.* is a history, that *Macbeth* is to be regarded and studied. Unless we view it as a skilful and wonderful development of character, indicating close acquaintance with the workings and tendencies of the human heart, it will appear to be little else than an accumulation of horrors. In the words of Steevens, "a picture of conscience encroaching on fortitude, of magnanimity once animated by virtue, and afterwards extinguished by guilt, was what Shakespeare meant to display in the character and conduct of Macbeth."

#### ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THE NOTES.

*adv.*, adverbial.  
*A.-S.*, Anglo-Saxon.  
*Ar.*, Arabic.  
*att.*, attributive.  
*cl.*, clause.  
*comp.*, compare.  
*conj.*, conjunction.  
*constr.*, construe.  
*cor.*, correlative.  
*dim.*, diminutive.  
*Dut.*, Dutch.  
*Fr.*, French.  
*fr.*, from.  
*Ger.*, German.  
*Goth.*, Gothic.

*Hol.*, Hollinshed.  
*interj.*, interjection.  
*Isl.*, Icelandic.  
*It.*, Italian.  
*Lat.*, Latin.  
*lit.*, literally.  
*M.-Goth.*, Maeso-Gothic  
*n.*, noun.  
*phr.*, phrase.  
*prep.*, preposition.  
*Sc.*, Scottish.  
*S.-Goth.*, Sueco-Gothic.  
*scil.*, scilicet.  
*wh.*, which is.

## THE REIGNS OF DUNCAN AND MACBETH.

EXTRACTED FROM RAPHAELL HOLLINSHED'S "HISTORIE OF SCOTLAND."

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1. After Malcolme succeeded his nephue Duncane, the son of his daughter Beatrice ; for Malcolme had two daughters, the one which was this Beatrice being giuen in mariage vnto one Abbanath Crinen, a man of great nobilitie, and Thane of the Iles and west parts of Scotland, bare of that mariage the foresaid Duncane ; the other, called Doads, was married unto Sinell, the Thane of Glammis, by whom she had issue one Makbeth, a valiant gentleman, and one that, if he had not beene somewhat cruell of nature, might haue beene thought most worthie the gouernment of a realme. On the other part, Duncane was so soft and gentle of nature, that the people wished the inclinations and manners of these two cousins to haue beene so tempered and interchangeablie bestowed betwixt them, that where the one had too much of clemencie, and the other of crueltie, the meane vertue betwixt these two extremities might haue reigned by indifferent partition in them both, so should Duncane haue proued a woorthie king, and Makbeth an excellent capteine. The beginning of Duncanes reigne was verie quiet and peaceable, without anie notable trouble ; but after it was perceiued how negligent he was in punishing offenders, manie misruled persons tooke occasion thereof to trouble the peace and quiet state of the common-wealth, by seditious commotions, which first had their beginnings in this wise.

2. Banquho the thane of Lochquhaber, of whom the house of the Stewards is descended, the which by order of linage hath now for a long time inioied the crowne of Scotland, euen till these our daies, as he gathered the finances due to the king, and further punished somewhat sharpelie such as were notorious offenders, being assailed by a number of rebels inhabiting in that countrie, and spoiled of the monie and all other things, had much a doo to get awaie with life, after he had receiued sundrie grievous wounds amongst them. Yet escaping their hands, after hee was somewhat recovered of his hurts, and was able to ride, he repaired to the court, where making his complaint to the king in most earnest wise, he purchased at length that the offenders were sent for by a sergeant at armes,

to appeare to make answer vnto such matters as should be laid to their charge; but they augmenting their mischievous act with a more wicked deed, after they had misused the messenger with sundrie kinds of reproches, they finallye slue him also.

3. Then doubting not but for such contemptuous demeanor against the kings regall authoritie, they should be inuaded with all the power the king could make, Makdowald, one of great estimation among them, making first a confederacie with his nearest friends and kinsmen, tooke vpon him to be chiefe capteine of all such rebels as would stand against the king, in maintenance of their grievous offenses latelie committed against him. Manie slanderous words also, and railing tants this Makdowald vttered against his prince, calling him a faint-hearted milkesop, more meet to gouerne a sort of idle moonks in some cloister, than to haue the rule of such valiant and hardie men of warre as the Scots were. He vsed also such subtile persuasions and forged allurements, that in a small time he had gotten together a mightie power of men; for out of the westernne Iles there came vnto him a great multitude of poeple, offering themselues to assist him in that rebellious quarell, and out of Ireland in hope of the spoile came no small number of Kernes and Galloglasses, offering gladlie to serue vnder him, whither it should please him to lead them.

4. [Narrates how at the first Makdowald discomfited the king's power; how the king, in his perplexity, called a council of his nobles; and how sundry advices were proffered to him.] At length Makbeth speaking much against the kings softnes, and ouermuch slacknesse in punishing offenders, wherby they had such time to assemble together, he promised notwithstanding, if the charge were committed vnto him and vnto Banquho, so to order the matter, that the rebels should be shortly vanquished & quite put downe, and that not so much as one of them should be found to make resistance within the countrie.

5. And euen so it came to passe: for being sent forth with a new power, at his entering into Lochquhaber, the fame of his comming put the enimies in such feare, that a great number of them stole secretlie awaie from their capteine Makdowald, who neuerthesse inforced thereto, gaue battell vnto Makbeth, with the residue which remained with him: but being overcome, and fleeing for refuge into a castell (within the which his wife & children were inclosed) at length when he saw how he could neither defend the hold anie longer against his enimies, nor yet vpon surrender be suffered to depart with life saved, hee first slue his wife and children, and lastlie himselfe, least if he had yeelded simplie, he should haue bene executed in most cruell wise for an example to other. Makbeth entring into the castell by the gates, as then set open, found the carcase of Makdowald lieng dead there amongst the residue of the slaine bodies, which when he beheld, remitting no peece of his cruell nature with that pitifull sight, he caused the head to be cut off, and set vpon a poles end, and so sent it as a present to the king, who as then laie at Ber-

tha. The headlesse trunk he commanded to bee hoong vpon an high paire of gallowes.

6. [Describes how "the Ilandmen conceived a deadlie grudge towards Makbeth," calling him "a cruell murderer," because of the heavy fines and punishments he inflicted on them; how he was on the point of marching against them with an army, but was dissuaded by his friends.] Thus was iustice and law restored againe to the old accustomed course, by the diligent means of Makbeth. Immediatlie wherevpon woord came that Suene King of Norway was arriued in Fife with a puissant armie, to subdue the whole realme of Scotland.

7. [Contains a digression to explain that this Sueno was the second son of that Sueno who drove Ethelred from the throne of England, and was, therefore, brother of Canute the Great. It also explains that Canute and Edmund Ironside agreed to fight a duel for the crown.]

8. [Describes the duel, and their agreement to divide the kingdom.]

9. But now touching the arriwall of Sueno the Norwegian king in Fife (as before is expressed) ye shall vnderstand, that the pretense of his comming was to rewenge the slaughter of his vnclie, Camus, and other of the Danish nation slaine at Barre, Crowdane, and Gemmer. The crueltie of this Sueno was such, that he neither spared man, woman, nor child, of what age, condition or degree soeuer they were. Whereof when K. Duncane was certified, he set all slouthfull and lingering delaies apart, and began to assemble an armie in most speedie wise, like a verie valiant capteine; for oftentimes it happeneth, that a dull coward and slouthfull person, constrained by necessitie, becommeth verie hardie and actiue. Therefore when his whole power was come togither, he diuided the same into three battels. The first was led by Makbeth, the second by Banquho, & the King himselfe gouerned in the maine battell or middle ward, wherein were appointed to attend and wait vpon his person the most part of all the residue of the Scottish nobilitie.

10, 11, 12, 13. [Describe the meeting of the Scots with the Danes at Culross; the defeat of the Scots; the flight of Duncane to Castell Bertha, where he is besieged by Sueno; the device whereby Duncane sent drugged wine to the Danes, and how, when they were overcome with sleep and stupor, Makbeth fell upon them and slaughtered them], so that of the whole number there escaped no more but onelie Sueno himselfe and ten other persons, by whose helpe he got to his ships lieng at rode in the mouth of Taie. [Sueno escaped with only one ship, the rest of his fleet being destroyed by a storm. The Scots celebrate their victory by processions and solemn thankgivings to almighty God.]

14. But whilst the people were thus at their processions, woord was brought that a new fleet of Danes was arriued at Kingorne, sent thither by Canute King of England, in reuenge of his brother Suenos ouerthrow. To resist these enemies, which were alreadie landed, and busie in spolling the countrie, Makbeth and Banquho were sent with the kings authoritie,



who hauing with them a conuenient power, incountred the enimies, slue part of them, and chased the other to their ships. They that escaped and got once to their ships, obtained of Makbeth for a great summe of gold, that such of their friends as were slaine at this last bickering, might be buried in Saint Colmes Inch. In memorie whereof, manie old sepultures are yet in the said Inch, there to be seene grauen with the armes of the Danes, as the maner of burieng noble men still is, and heeretofore hath beene vsed. A peace was also concluded at the same time betwixt the Danes and Scottishmen, ratified (as some haue written) in this wise : That from thencefoorth the Danes should neuer come into Scotland to make anie warres against the Scots by anie maner of meanes. And these were the warres that Duncane had with forren enimies, in the seuenth yeere of his reigne.

15. Shortlie after happened a strange and vncouth woonder, which afterward was the cause of much trouble in the realme of Scotland, as ye shall after heare. It fortunèd as Makbeth and Banquho iournied towards Fores, where the king then laie, they went sporting by the waie together without other companie, saue onelie themselues, passing thorough the woods and fields, when suddenlie in the middest of a laund, there met them three women in strange and wild apparell, resembling creatures of elder world, whome when they attentiwelie beheld, woondering much at the sight, the first of them spake and said :—

“ All haile Makbeth,thane of Glamis !”

(for he had latelie entered into that dignitie and office by the death of his father Sinell). The second of them said :—

“ Haile Makbeththane of Cawder !”

But the third said :—

“ All haile Makbeth that heereafter shalt be king of Scotland !”

16. Then Banquho : “ What manner of women (saith he) are you, that seeme so little fauourable vnto me, whereas to my fellow heere, besides high offices, ye assigne also the kingdome, appointing foorth nothing for me at all !” “ Yes (saith the first of them) we promise greater benefits vnto thee, than vnto him ; for he shall reigne in deed, but with an vn-luckie end : neither shall he leaue anie issue behind him to succeed in his place, where contrarilie thou in deed shalt not reigne at all, but of thee those shall be borne which shall gouerne the Scottish kingdome by long order of continuall descent.” Herewith the foresaid women vanished immediatlie out of their sight. This was reputed at the first but some vaine fantasticall illusion by Makbeth and Banquho, insomuch that Banquho would call Makbeth in iest, king of Scotland ; and Makbeth againe would call him in sport likewise, the father of manie kings. But afterwards the common opinion was, that these women were either the weird sisters, that is (as ye would say) the goddesses of destinie, or else some nymphs or feiries, indued with knowledge of prophecie by their

neeromantick science, because euerie thing came to passe as they had spoken. For shortlie after, the Thane of Cawder being condemned at Fores of treason against the king committed; his lands, liuings, and offices were giuen of the kings liberalitie to Makbeth.

17. The same night after, at supper, Banquho iested with him and said; "Now Makbeth thou hast obtained those things which the two former sisters prophesied, there remaineth onelie for thee to purchase that which the third said should come to passe. Wherevpon Makbeth resoluing the thing in his mind, began euen then to deuise how he might attaine to the kingdome; but yet he thought with himselfe that he must tarie a time, which should aduance him thereto (by the Diuine Prouidence) as it had come to passe in his former preferment. But shortlie after it chanced that King Duncane, hauing two sonnes by his wife which was the daughter of Siward earle of Northumberland, he made the elder of them, called Malcolme, prince of Cumberland, as it were thereby to appoint him his successor in the kingdome, immediatlie after his decease. Mackbeth sore troubled herewith, for that he saw by this means his hope sore hindered (where, by the old lawes of the realme, the ordinance was, that if he that should succeed were not of able age to take the charge vpon himselfe, he that was next of bloud vnto him should be admitted) he began to take counsell how he might vsurpe the kingdome by force, hauing a iust quarell so, to doo (as he tooke the matter) for that Duncane did what in him lay to defraud him of all maner of title and claime, which he might in time to come, pretend vnto the crowne.

18. The woords of the three weird sisters also (of whom before ye haue heard) greatlie encouraged him herevnto, but speciallie his wife lay sore vpon him to attempt the thing, as she that was verie ambitious, burning in vnquenchable desire to beare the name of a queene. At length therefore, communicating his purposed intent with his trustie friends, amongst whome Banquho was the chiefest, vpon confidence of their promised aid, he slue the king at Eneuerns, or (as some say) at Botgosewane, in the sixt yeare of his reigne. Then hauing a companie about him of such as he had made priuie to his enterprise, he caused himselfe to be proclaimed king, and forthwith went vnto Scone, where (by common consent) he receiued the inuesture of the kingdome according to the accustomed maner. The bodie of Duncane was first conueied vnto Elgine, & there buried in kinglie wise; but afterwards it was remoued and conueied vnto Colmekill, and there laid in a sepulture amongst his predecessors, in the yeare after the birth of our Sauour, 1046.

19. Malcolme Cammore and Donald Bane, the sons of King Duncane, for feare of their liues (which they might well know that Mackbeth would seeke to bring to end for his more sure confirmation in the estate) fled into Cumberland, where Malcolme remained, till time that Saint Edward the sonne of Ethelred recovered the dominion of England from the Danish power, the which Edward receiued Malcolme by way of most friendlie

entertainment; but Donald passed ouer into Ireland, where he was tenderlie cherished by the king of that land. Mackbeth, after the departure thair of Duncanes sonnes, vsed great liberalitie towards the nobles of the realme, thereby to win their fauour, and when he saw that no man went about to trouble him, he set his whole intention to mainteine iustice, and to punish all enormities and abuses, which had chanced through the feeble and slouthfull administration of Duncane. And to bring his purpose the better to passe without anie trouble or great businesse, he deuised a subtil wile to bring all offenders and misdooers vnto iustice, solliciting sundrie of his liege people with high rewards, to challenge and appeale such as most oppressed the commons, to come at a day and place appointed, to fight singular combats within barriers, in triall of their accusations. When these thesses, barrettors, and other oppressors of the innocent people were come to darren battell in this wise (as is said) they were streight waies apprehended by armed men, and trussed vp in halters on gibbets, according as they had iustlie deserved. The residue of misdooers that were left, were punished and tamed in such sort, that manie yeares after all theft and reifings were little heard of, the people iniofeng the blissefull benefit of good peace and tranquillitie. Mackbeth shewing himselfe thus a most diligent punisher of all iniuries and wrongs attempted by anie disordered persons within his realme, was accounted the sure defence and buckler of innocent people; and hereto he also applied his whole endeuor to cause yong men to exercise themselves in vertuous maners, and men of the church to attend their diuine service according to their vocations.

20. He caused to be slaine sundrie thanes, as of Cathnes, Sutherland, Stramauerne, and Ros, because through them and their seditious attempts, much trouble dailie rose in the realme. He appeased the troublesome state of Galloway, and slue one Makgill a tyrant, who had manie yeares before passed nothing of the regale authoritie or power. To be brieft, such were the woorthie dooings and princelie acts of this Mackbeth in the administration of the realme, that if he had attained therevnto by rightfull means, and continued in vprightnesse of iustice as he began, till the end of his reigne, he might well haue bene numbred amongst the most noble princes that anie where had reigned. He made manie hollesome laws and statutes for the publike weale of his subiects.

[Here folloves an enumeration of "Lawes made by King Makbeth, set fourth according to Hector Boetius."]

21. These and the like commendable lawes Makbeth caused to be put as then in vse, gouerning the realme for the space of ten yeares in equall iustice. But this was but a counterfet zeale of equitie shewed by him, partie against his naturall inclination to purchase thereby the fauour of the people. Shortlie after, he began to shew what he was, in stead of equitie practising crueltie. For the pricke of conscience (as it chanceth euer in tyrants, and such as attaine to anie estate by vnrighteous means) caused him euer to feare, least he should be serued of the same cup, as he had

ministred to his predecessor. The woords also of the three weird sisters, would not out of his mind, which as they promised him the kingdome, so likewise did they promise it at the same time vnto the posteritie of Banquho. He willed therefore the same Banquho with his sonne named Fleance, to come to a supper that he had prepared for them, which was in deed, as he had deuised, present death at the hands of certaine murderers, whom he hired to execute that deed, appointing them to meete with the same Banquho and his sonne without the palace, as they returned to their lodgings, and there to slea them, so that he would not haue his house slandered, but that in time to come he might cleare himselfe, if anie thing were laid to his charge vpon anie suspicion that might arise.

22. It chanced yet by the benefit of the darke night, that though the father were slaine, the sonne yet by the helpe of Almighty God reseruing him to better fortune, escaped that danger: and afterwards hauing some inkeling (by the admonition of some friends which he had in the court) how his life was sought no lesse than his fathers, who was slaine net by chancemedlie (as by the handling of the matter Makbeth would haue had it to appeare) but euen vpon a prepaensed deuise: whereupon to auoid further perill he fled into Wales. [The narrative here makes a long digression, in which the history of Fleance and his descendants, the Royal Stewarts, is minutely traced.]

23. After the contriued slaughter of Banquho, nothing prospered with the foresaid Makbeth: for in maner euerie man began to doubt his owne life, and durst vnneth\* appeare in the kings presencc; and euen as there were manie that stood in feare of him, so likewise stood he in feare of manie, in such sort that he began to make those awaie by one surmized cauillation or other, whome he thought most able to worke him anie displeasure.

24. At length he found such sweetnesse by putting his nobles thus to death, that his earnest thirst after bloud in this behalfe might in no wise be satisfied; for he must consider he wan double profit (as hee thought) hereby: for first they were rid out of the way whome he feared, and then againe his coffers were enriched by their goods which were forfeited to his vse, whereby he might better maintaine a gard of armed men about him to defend his person from iniurie of them whom he had in anie suspicion. Further, to the end he might the more cruellie oppress his subiects with all tyrantlike wrongs, he builded a strong castell on the top of an hie hill called Dunsinane, situate in Gowrie, ten miles from Perth, on such a proud height that, standing there aloft, a man might behold well neere all the countries of Angus, Fife, Starmond, and Ermedale, as it were, lieng vnderneath him. This castell then being founded on the top of that high hill, put the realme to great charges before it was finished, for all the stuffe necessarie to the building, could not be brought vp with-

\* With difficulty.

out much toile and businesse. But Makbeth being once determined to haue the worke go forward, caused the thanes of each shire within the realme to come and helpe towards that building, each man his course about.

25. At the last, when the turne fell vnto Makduffe Thane of Fife to build his part, he sent workemen with all needfull prouision, and commanded them to shew such diligence in euerie behalfe, that no occasion might bee giuen for the king to find fault with him, in that he came not himselfe as other had doone, which he refused to doo, for doubt least the king bearing him (as he partlie vnderstood) no great good will, would laie violent nands vpon him, as he had doone vpon diuarse others. Shortlie after, Makbeth comming to behold how the worke went forward, and bicause he found not Makduffe there, he was sore offended, and said; "I perceine this man will neuer obeie my commandements, till he be ridden with a snaffle; but I shall prouide well inough for him." Neither could he afterwards abide to looke vpon the said Makduffe, either for that he thought his puissance ouer great; either else for that he had learned of certeine wizzards, in whose words he put great confidence (for that the prophesie had happened so right, which the three faries or weird-sisters had declared vnto him), how that he ought to take heed of Makduffe, who in time to come should seeke to destroe him.

26. And suerlie hereupon had he put Makduffe to death, but that a certeine witch, whome hee had in great trust, had told that *he should neuer be slaine with man borne of anie woman, nor vanquished till the wood of Birnane came to the Castell of Dunsinane.* By this prophesie Makbeth put all feare out of his hearte, supposing he might doo what he would, without anie feare to be punished for the same; for by the one prophesie he beleueed it was vnpossible for anie man to vanquish him, and by the other vnpossible to slea him. This vaine hope caused him to doo manie outrageous things, to the greuous oppression of his subjects. At length Makduffe, to auoid perill of life, purposed with himselfe to passe into England, to procure Malcolme Cammore to claime the crowne of Scotland. But this was not so secretlie deuised by Makduffe, but that Makbeth had knowledge giuen him thereof; for kings (as is said) haue sharpe sight like vnto Lynx, and long ears like vnto Midaa. For Makbeth had in euerie noble mans house, one slie fellow or other in fee with him, to reueale all that was said or doone within the same, by which slight he oppressed the most part of the nobles of his realme.

27. Immediatlie then, being aduertised whereabout Makduffe went, he came hastily with a great power into Fife, and fourthwith besieged the castell where Makduffe dwelled, trusting to haue found him therein. They that kept the house, without anie resistance opened the gates, and suffered him to enter, mistrusting none euill. But neuerthelesse Makbeth most cruellie caused the wife and children of Makduffe, with all other whom he found in that castell, to be slaine. Also he confiscated the goods

of Makduffe, proclaimed him traitor, and confined him out of all the parts of his realme; but Makduffe was alreadie escaped out of danger, and gotten into England vnto Malcolme Cammore, to trie what purchase hee might make by means of his support, to reuenge the slaughter so cruellie executed on his wife, his children, and other friends. At his comming vnto Malcolme, he declared into what great miserie the estate of Scotland was brought, by the detestable cruelties exercised by the tyrant Makbeth, hauing committed manie horrible slaughters and murders, both as well of the nobles as commons, for the which he was hated right mortallie of all his liege people, desiring nothing more than to be deliuered of that intollerable and most heauie yoke of thraldome, which they susteined at such a cattifes hands.

28. Malcome hearing Makduffes words, which he vttered in verie lamentable sort, for meere compassion and verie ruth that pearsed his sorrowfull hart, bewailing the miserable state of his countrie, he fetched a deepe sigh; which Makduffe perceiuing, began to fall most earnestlie in hand with him, to enterprize the deliuering of the Scottish people out of the hands of so cruell and bloudie a tyrant, as Makbeth by too manie plaine experiments did shew himselfe to be: which was an easie matter for him to bring to passe, considering not onelie the good title he had, but also the earnest desire of the people to haue some occasion ministred, whereby they might be reuenged of those notable iniuries, which they dailie susteined by the outrageous crueltie of Makbeths misgouernance. Though Malcolme was verie sorrowfull for the oppression of his countrymen the Scots, in maner as Makduffe had declared; yet doubting whether he were come as one that ment vnfeinedlie as he spake, or else as sent from Makbeth to betraie him, he thought to haue some further trial, and therevpon dissembling his mind at the first, he answered as followeth:

29. "I am trulie verie sorie for the miserie chanced to my countrie of Scotland, but though I haue neuer so great affection to relieue the same, yet by reason of certeine incurable vices, which reigne in me, I am nothing meet thereto. First, such immoderate lust and voluptuous sensuality (the abominable founteine of all vices) followeth me, that if I were made King of Scots, I should seeke to defloure your maids and matrones, in such wise that mine intemperancie should be more importable vnto you, than the bloudie tyrannie of Makbeth now is." Heerevnto Makduffe answered: "This suerlie is a verie euill fault, for manie noble princes and kings haue lost both liues and kingdomes for the same; neuerthelessse there are women enow in Scotland, and therefore follow my counsell. Make thyselfe king, and I shall conueie the matter so wiselie, that thou shalt be so satisfied at thy pleasure in such secret wise, that no man shall be aware thereof."

30. Then said Malcolme, "I am also the most auaritious creature on the earth, so that if I were king, I should seeke so manie waies to get lands and goods, that I would slea the most part of all the nobles of Scotland by

surmized accusations, to the end I might enioy their lands, goods, and possessions; and therefore to show you what mischiefe may insue on you through mine vnsatiable couetousnes, I will rehearse unto you a fable." [Malcolme then tells the fable of the wounded fox, that refused to allow the flies to be driven from its sore, lest fresh and hungry flies should settle on it, and suck more of its blood than those that were already partly satisfied;—in like manner, the Scots were better with the half-exhausted tyranny of Makbeth than with Malcolme, whose blood-thirst was yet wholly unappeased.]

31. Makduffe to this made answer, how it was a far woorse fault than the other: "For auarice is the root of all mischiefe, and for that crime the most part of our kings haue beene slaine and brought to their finall end. Yet notwithstanding follow my counsell, and take vpon thee the crowne. There is gold and riches inough in Scotland to satisfie thy greedie desira." Then said Malcolme againe: "I am furthermore inclined to dissimulation, telling of leasings, and all other kinds of deceit, so that I naturallie reioise in nothing so much, as to betraie & deceiue such as put anie trust or confidence in my woords. Then sith there is nothing that more becommeth a prince than constancie, veritie, truth, and iustice, with the other laudable fellowship of those faire and noble vertues which are comprehended onelie in soothfastnesse, and that lieng vtterlie ouerthroweth the same; you see how vnable I am to gouerne anie prouince or region; and therefore sith you haue remedies to cloke and hide all the rest of my other vices, I praie you find shift to cloke this vice amongst the residue."

32. Then said Makduffe: "This yet is the woorst of all, and there I leaue thee, and therefore saie; Oh ye vnhappy and miserable Scottish-men, which are thus scourged with so manie and sundrie calamities, ech one aboute other! Ye haue one curssed and wicked tyrant that now reigneth ouer you, without anie right or title, oppressing you with his most bloudie crueltie. This other that hath the right to the crowne, is so replet with the inconstant behauiour and manifest vices of Englishmen, that he is nothing woorthy to inioy it: for by his owne confession he is not onelie auaritious, and giuen to vnsatiable lust, but so false a traitor withall, that no trust is to be had vnto anie woord he speaketh. Adieu Scotland, for now I account myselfe a banished man for euer, without comfort or consolation:" and with those woords the brackish tears trickled downe his cheekes verie abundantie.

33. At the last, when he was readie to depart, Malcolme tooke him by the sleee, and said: "Be of good comfort Makduffe, for I haue none of these vices before remembered, but haue iested with thee in this manner, onelie to prooue thy mind: for diuerse times heeretofore hath Makbeth sought by this manner of meanes to bring me into his hands, but the more slow I haue showed my selfe to condescend to thy motion and request, the more diligence shall I vse in accomplishing the same." Incontinentlie heerevpon they imbraced ech other, and promising to be faithfull the one

to the other, they fell in consultation how they might best provide for all their businesses, to bring the same to good effect. Soone after, Makduffe repairing to the borders of Scotland, addressed his letters with secret dispatch vnto the nobles of the realme, declaring how Malcolme was confederat with him, to come hastilie into Scotland to claime the crowne, and therefore he required them, sith he was right inheritor thereto, to assist him with their powers to recouer the same out of the hands of the wrongfull vsurper.

34. In the meantime, Malcolme purchased such fauour at King Edwards hands, that old Siward Earle of Northumberland was appointed with ten thousand men to go with him into Scotland, to support him in this enterprise, for recouerie of his right. After these newes were spread abroad in Scotland, the nobles drew into two seuerall factions, the one taking part with Makbeth, and the other with Malcolme. Heerevpon insued oftentimes sundrie bickerings & diuerse light skirmishes: for those that were of Malcolmes side, would not ieopard to ioine with their enimies in a pight\* field, till his comming out of England to their support. But after that Makbeth perceiued his enimies power to increase, by such aid as came to them forth of England with his aduersarie Malcolme, he recoiled backe into Fife, there purposing to abide in campe fortified, at the castell of Dunsinane, and to fight with his enimies, if they ment to pursue him; howbeit some of his friends aduised him, that it should be best for him, either to make some agreement with Malcolme, or else to flee with all speed into the Iles, and to take his treasure with him, to the end he might wage† sundrie great princes of the realme to take his part, & retaine strangers, in whome he might better trust than in his owne subiects, which stale dailie from him: but he had such confidence in his prophesies, that he believed he should neuer be vanquished, till Birnane wood were brought to Dunsinane; nor yet to be slaine with anie man, that should be or was born of anie woman.

35. Malcolme following hastilie after Makbeth, came the night before the battell vnto Birnane wood, and when his armie had rested a while there to refresh them, he commanded euerie man to get a bough of some tree or other of that wood in his hand, as big as he might beare, and to march forth therewith in such wise, that on the next morrow the might come closelie and without sight in this manner within view of his enimies. On the morrow when Makbeth beheld them comming in this sort, he first marvelled what the matter ment, but in the end remembered himselfe that the prophesie which he had heard long before that time of the comming of Birnane wood to Dunsinane castell, was likelie to be now fulfilled. Neuerthelesse, he brought his men in order of battell, and exhorted them to doo valiantlie; howbeit his enimies had scarselie cast from them their boughs, when Makbeth perceiuing their numbers, betooke him streict to

\* Pitched. So in *Leir*, il. 1:—"And found him *pight* to do it,"—i.e., fixed, resolved.

† Hire, engage.



flight, whom Makduffe pursued with great hatred euen till he came vnto Lunfannaine, where Makbeth perceiuing that Makduffe was hard at his backe, leapt beside his horsse, saiong: "Thou traitor, what meaneth it that thou shouldest thus in vaine follow me that am not appointed to be slaine by anie creature that is borne of a woman, come on therefore, and receiue thy reward which thou hast deserued for thy paines," and therewithall he lifted vp his swoord thinking to haue slaine him.

36. But Makduffe quicklie auoiding from his horsse, yer\* he came at him, answered (with his naked swoord in his hand) saiong: "It is true Makbeth, and now shall thine insatiable crueltie haue an end, for I am euen he that thy wizzards haue told thee of, who was neuer borne of my mother, but ripped out of her wombe:" therewithall he stept vnto him, and slue him in the place. Then cutting his head from his shoulders, he set it vpon a pole, and brought it vnto Malcolme. This was the end of Makbeth, after he had reigned 17 yeeres ouer the Scottishmen. In the beginning of his reigne he accomplished manie woorthie acts, verie profitable to the common-wealth (as ye haue heard) but afterward by illusion of the diuel., he defamed the same with most terrible crueltie. He was slaine in the yeere of the incarnation, 1057, and in the 16 yeere of King Edwards reigne ouer the Englishmen.

37. Malcolme Cammore thus recouering the relme (as ye haue heard) by support of king Edward, in the 16 yeere of the same Edwards reigne, he was crowned at Scone the 25 day of Aprill in the yeere of our Lord 1057. Immediatlie after his coronation he called a parlement at Forfair, in the which he rewarded them with lands and liuings that had assisted him against Makbeth, aduancing them to fees and offices as he saw cause, & commanded that speciallie those that bare the surname of anie offices or lands, should haue and inioy the same. He created manie earles, lords, barons, and knights. Manie of them that before were thanes, were at this time made Earles, as Fife, Menteth, Atholl, Leuenox, Murrey, Cathnes, Rosse, and Angus. These were the first earles that haue been heard of amongst the Scottishmen (as their histories doo make mention).

etc.

etc.

\* Before. Yer is contracted for *Yet-ere*, still before. Similarly Shakspeare uses *Wh'er* for *whether* (*Jul. Cæs.* i. 2, etc.); and *Wher* for *Wherefore* (*Lear*, ii. 1).

# MACBETH.

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## PERSONS REPRESENTED.

DUNCAN, *King of Scotland.*

MALCOLM, *son to Duncan.*

DONALBAIN, *son to Duncan.*

MACBETH, *general of the King's army.*

BANQUO, *general of the King's army.*

MACDUFF, *a nobleman of Scotland.*

LENOX, *a nobleman of Scotland.*

ROSSE, *a nobleman of Scotland.*

MENTETH, *a nobleman of Scotland.*

ANGUS, *a nobleman of Scotland.*

CATHNESS, *a nobleman of Scotland.*

FLEANCE, *son to Banquo.*

SIWARD, *Earl of Northumberland, general of the English forces.*

Young SIWARD, *son to the Earl of Northumberland.*

SEYTON, *an officer attending on Macbeth.*

Son to Macduff.

An English Doctor.

A Scotch Doctor.

A Soldier.

A Porter.

An old Man.

LADY MACBETH.

LADY MACDUFF.

Gentlewoman attending on Lady Macbeth.

HECATE.

Three Witches.

*Lords, Gentlemen, Officers, Soldiers, Murderers, Attendants, and Messengers. The Ghost of Banquo, and other Apparitions.*

SCENE—IN SCOTLAND; EXCEPT IN THE END OF ACT IV., WHERE IT  
IS IN ENGLAND.

## ACT I.

SCENE I.—*An open Place. Thunder and Lightning.**Enter three Witches.*

1 *Witch.* When shall we three meet again  
In thunder, lightning, or in rain ?

2 *Witch.* When the hurlyburly's done,  
When the battle's lost and won :

5 3 *Witch.* That will be ere the set of sun.

1 *Witch.* Where the place ?

2 *Witch.* Upon the heath.

3 *Witch.* There to meet with Macbeth.

1 *Witch.* I come, Graymalkin !

2 *Witch.* Paddock calls :—Anon !—

10 *All.* Fair is foul, and foul is fair :

Hover through the fog and filthy air. [*Witches vanish.*]

SCENE II.—*A Camp near Forres. Alarum within.*

*Enter King DUNCAN, MALCOLM, DONALBAIN, LENOX, with Attendants, meeting a bleeding Soldier.*

*Dun.* What bloody man is that ? He can report,  
As seemeth by his plight, of the revolt  
The newest state.

*Mal.* This is the sergeant  
15 Who, like a good and hardy soldier, fought  
'Gainst my captivity :—

Hail, brave friend !  
Say to the king the knowledge of the broil,  
As thou didst leave it.

*Sold.* Doubtful it stood ;  
As two spent swimmers, that do cling together  
20 And choke their art. The merciless Macdonwald  
(Worthy to be a rebel ; for, to that,  
The multiplying villanies of nature  
Do swarm upon him) from the western isles  
Of kernes and gallowglasses is supplied :  
25 And Fortune, on his damned quarrel smiled.

- . . . . . But all's too weak ;  
For brave Macbeth (well he deserves that name),  
Disdaining fortune, with his brandish'd steel,  
Which smoked with bloody execution,  
30 Like valour's minion,  
Carved out his passage till he faced the slave ;  
And ne'er shook hands, nor bade farewell to him,  
Till he unseam'd him from the nave to the chaps,  
And fix'd his head upon our battlements.
- 35 *Dun.* O valiant cousin ! worthy gentleman !  
*Sold.* As, whence the sun 'gins his reflection,  
Shipwracking storms and direful thunders break ;  
So, from that spring whence comfort seem'd to come,  
Discomfort swells. Mark, king of Scotland, mark :  
40 No sooner justice had, with valour arm'd,  
Compell'd these skipping kerns to trust their heels,  
But the Norweyan lord, surveying vantage,  
With furbish'd arms, and new supplies of men,  
Began a fresh assault.
- Dun.* Dismay'd not this  
45 Our captains, Macbeth and Banquo ?  
*Sold.* Yes :  
As sparrows, eagles ; or the hare, the lion.  
If I say sooth, I must report they were  
As cannons overcharged with double cracks ;  
So they doubly redoubled strokes upon the foe :  
50 Except they meant to bathe in reeking wounds,  
Or memorize another Golgotha,  
I cannot tell :—  
But I am faint, my gashes cry for help.
- Dun.* So well thy words become thee as thy wounds ;  
55 They smack of honour both.—Go, get him surgeons.  
(*Exit Soldier, attended.*)

*Enter Rosse.*

Who comes here ?

*Mal.* The worthythane of Rosse.

*Len.* What a haste looks through his eyes !  
So should he look that seems to speak things strange.

*Rosse.* God save the king !

60 *Dun.* Whence cam'st thou, worthy thane?

*Rosse.* From Fife, great king;

Where the Norweyan banners flout the sky,  
And fan our people cold.

Norway himself, with terrible numbers,

65 Assisted by that most disloyal traitor

The thane of Cawdor, began a dismal conflict:

Till that Bellona's bridegroom, lapp'd in proof,

Confronted him with self-comparisons,

Point against point rebellious, arm 'gainst arm,

70 Curbing his lavish spirit: And, to conclude,

The victory fell on us;—

*Dun.* Great happiness!

*Rosse.* That now

Sweno, the Norways' king, craves composition;

Nor would we deign him burial of his men,

Till he disbursed, at Saint Colmes-inch,

75 Ten thousand dollars to our general use.

*Dun.* No more the thane of Cawdor shall deceive

Our bosom interest:—Go, pronounce his present death,

And with his former title greet Macbeth.

*Rosse.* I'll see it done.

80 *Dun.* What he hath lost, noble Macbeth hath won.

[*Exeunt.*]

### SCENE III.—A Heath. Thunder.

*Enter the three Witches.*

1 *Witch.* Where hast thou been, sister?

2 *Witch.* Killing swine.

3 *Witch.* Sister, where thou?

1 *Witch.* A sailor's wife had chesnuts in her lap;

85 And mounch'd, and mounch'd, and mounch'd:—"Give  
me," quoth I:

"Aroint thee, witch!" the rump-fed ronyon cries.

Her husband's to Aleppo gone, master o' the Tiger:

But in a sieve I'll thither sail,

And like a rat without a tail,

90 I'll do, I'll do, and I'll do.

2 *Witch.* I'll give thee a wind.

1 *Witch.* Thou art kind.

3 *Witch.* And I another.

1 *Witch.* I myself have all the other;

95 And the very ports they blow,  
All the quarters that they know  
I' the shipman's card.

I'll drain him dry as hay :

Sleep shall neither night nor day

100 Hang upon his pent-house lid ;

He shall live a man forbid :

Weary sev'n-nights, nine times nine

Shall he dwindle, peak, and pine :

Though his bark cannot be lost,

105 Yet it shall be tempest-toss'd.

Look what I have.

2 *Witch.* Show me, show me.

1 *Witch.* Here I have a pilot's thumb,

Wrack'd, as homeward he did come.

[*Drum within.*]

3 *Witch.* A drum, a drum :

110 Macbeth doth come.

*All.* The weird sisters, hand in hand,

Posters of the sea and land,

Thus do go about, about ;

Thrice to thine, and thrice to mine,

115 And thrice again, to make up nine :——

Peace !——the charm 's wound up.

*Enter MACBETH and BANQUO.*

*Macb.* So foul and fair a day I have not seen.

*Ban.* How far is 't call'd to Forres ?——What are these,  
So wither'd, and so wild in their attire ;

120 That look not like the inhabitants o' the earth,

And yet are on 't ?——Live you ? or are you aught

That man may question ? You seem to understand me,

By each at once her choppy finger laying

Upon her skinny lips :——You should be women,

125 And yet your beards forbid me to interpret

That you are so.

*Macb.* Speak, if you can ;——What are you ?

1 *Witch.* All hail, Macbeth ! hail to thee, thane of  
Glamis !

2 *Witch.* All hail, Macbeth! hail to thee, thane of Cawdor!

3 *Witch.* All hail, Macbeth! that shalt be king hereafter!

130 *Ban.* Good sir, why do you start; and seem to fear Things that do sound so fair?—

I' the name of truth,  
Are ye fantastical, or that in deed  
Which outwardly ye show? My noble partner  
You greet with present grace, and great prediction  
135 Of noble having, and of royal hope,  
That he seems rapt withal; to me you speak not:  
If you can look into the seeds of time,  
And say which grain will grow, and which will not,  
Speak then to me, who neither beg, nor fear,  
140 Your favours, nor your hate.

1 *Witch.* Hail!

2 *Witch.* Hail!

3 *Witch.* Hail!

1 *Witch.* Lesser than Macbeth, and greater.

2 *Witch.* Not so happy, yet much happier.

3 *Witch.* Thou shalt 'get kings, though thou be none:

145 So all hail, Macbeth and Banquo!

1 *Witch.* Banquo and Macbeth, all hail!

*Macb.* Stay, you imperfect speakers, tell me more:  
By Sinel's death, I know I am thane of Glamis;  
But how of Cawdor? the thane of Cawdor lives,

150 A prosperous gentleman; and, to be king,  
Stands not within the prospect of belief,  
No more than to be Cawdor. Say, from whence  
You owe this strange intelligence; or why  
Upon this blasted heath you stop our way

155 With such prophetic greeting:—Speak, I charge you.

[Witches vanish.]

*Ban.* The earth hath bubbles, as the water has,  
And these are of them: Whither are they vanish'd?

*Macb.* Into the air: and what seem'd corporal, melted  
As breath into the wind.—'Would they had stayed!

160 *Ban.* Were such things here as we do speak about?  
Or have we eaten on the insane root

That takes the reason prisoner ?

*Macb.* Your children shall be kings.

*Ban.* You shall be king.

*Macb.* And thane of Cawdor too ; went it not so ?

165 *Ban.* To the self-same tune, and words.—Who's here ?

*Enter ROSSE and ANGUS.*

*Rosse.* The king hath happily received, Macbeth,  
The news of thy success : and when he reads  
Thy personal venture in the rebels' fight,  
His wonders and his praises do contend,  
170 Which should be thine, or his : silenced with that,  
In viewing o'er the rest o' the self-same day,  
He finds thee in the stout Norweyan ranks,  
Nothing afeard of what thyself didst make,  
Strange images of death. As thick as hail  
175 Came post with post ; and every one did bear  
Thy praises in his kingdom's great defence,  
And pour'd them down before him.

*Ang.* We are sent,  
To give thee, from our royal master, thanks ;  
Only to herald thee into his sight,  
180 Not pay thee.

*Rosse.* And, for an earnest of a greater honour,  
He bade me, from him, call thee thane of Cawdor :  
In which addition, hail, most worthy thane !  
For it is thine.

*Ban.* What, can the devil speak true ?

*Macb.* The thane of Cawdor lives : Why do you dress me  
185 In borrow'd robes ?

*Ang.* Who was the thane, lives yet ;  
But under heavy judgment bears that life  
Which he deserves to lose. Whether he was combined  
With those of Norway ; or did line the rebel  
With hidden help and vantage ; or that with both  
190 He labour'd in his country's wrack, I know not ;  
But treasons capital, confess'd and proved,  
Have overthrown him.

*Macb.* Glamis, and thane of Cawdor :  
The greatest is behind. [*Aside.*—Thanks for your pains.—



Do you not hope your children shall be kings, [To BANQUO.  
195 When those that gave the thane of Cawdor to me,  
Promised no less to them?

*Ban.* That, trusted home,  
Might yet enkindle you unto the crown,  
Besides the thane of Cawdor. But 't is strange :  
And oftentimes, to win us to our harm,  
200 The instruments of darkness tell us truths ;  
Win us with honest trifles, to betray us  
In deepest consequence.—

Cousins, a word, I pray you. [To ROSS and ANGUS.

*Macb.* Two truths are told, [*Aside.*  
As happy prologues to the swelling act  
205 Of the imperial theme.—I thank you, gentlemen.—  
This supernatural soliciting [*Aside.*

Cannot be ill ; cannot be good :—If ill,  
Why hath it given me earnest of success,  
Commencing in a truth ? I am thane of Cawdor :  
210 If good, why do I yield to that suggestion  
Whose horrid image doth unfix my hair,  
And make my seated heart knock at my ribs,  
Against the use of nature ? Present fears  
Are less than horrible imaginings :

215 My thought, whose murther yet is but fantastical,  
Shakes so my single state of man, that function  
Is smother'd in surmise ; and nothing is  
But what is not.

*Ban.* Look, how our partner's rapt.

*Macb.* [*Aside.*—If chance will have me king, why,  
chance may crown me,  
220 Without my stir.

*Ban.* New honours come upon him,  
Like our strange garments, cleave not to their mould,  
But with the aid of use.

*Macb.* [*Aside.* Come what come may,  
Time and the hour runs through the roughest day.

*Ban.* Worthy Macbeth, we stay upon your leisure.

225 *Macb.* Give me your favour :—My dull brain was  
wrought  
With things forgotten. Kind gentlemen, your pains

Are register'd where every day I turn  
The leaf to read them.—Let us toward the king.—  
Think upon what hath chanced; and, at more time,  
[To BANQUO.

- 230 The interim having weigh'd it, let us speak  
Our free hearts each to other.

*Ban.* Very gladly.

*Macb.* Till then, enough.—Come, friends. [Exeunt.

SCENE IV.—FORRES. *A Room in the Palace.*

*Flourish.* Enter DUNCAN, MALCOLM, DONALBAIN,  
LENOX, and Attendants.

*Dun.* Is execution done on Cawdor? Are not  
Those in commission yet return'd?

- Mal.* My liege,  
235 They are not yet come back. But I have spoke  
With one that saw him die: who did report,  
That very frankly he confess'd his treasons;  
Implored your highness' pardon; and set forth  
A deep repentance: nothing in his life  
240 Became him like the leaving it; he died  
As one that had been studied in his death,  
To throw away the dearest thing he owed,  
As 't were a careless trifle.

- Dun.* There 's no art  
To find the mind's construction in the face:  
245 He was a gentleman on whom I built  
An absolute trust.—

Enter MACBETH, BANQUO, ROSSE, and ANGUS.

- O worthiest cousin!  
The sin of my ingratitude even now  
Was heavy on me: thou art so far before,  
That swiftest wing of recompense is slow  
250 To overtake thee. 'Would thou hadst less deserved;  
That the proportion both of thanks and payment  
Might have been mine! only I have left to say,  
More is thy due than more than all can pay.

*Macb.* The service, and the loyalty I owe  
 255 In doing it, pays itself. Your highness' part  
 Is to receive our duties : and our duties  
 Are to your throne and state, children and servants ;  
 Which do but what they should, by doing everything  
 Safe toward your love and honour.

*Dun.* Welcome hither :  
 260 I have begun to plant thee, and will labour  
 To make thee full of growing.—Noble Banquo,  
 That hast no less deserved, nor must be known  
 No less to have done so ; let me infold thee,  
 And hold thee to my heart.

*Ban.* 'There if I grow,  
 265 The harvest is your own.

*Dun.* My plenteous joys,  
 Wanton in fulness, seek to hide themselves  
 In drops of sorrow.—Sons, kinsmen, thanes,  
 And you whose places are the nearest, know,  
 We will establish our estate upon  
 270 Our eldest, Malcolm ; whom we name hereafter  
 The Prince of Cumberland : which honour must  
 Not, unaccompanied, invest him only,  
 But signs of nobleness, like stars, shall shine  
 On all deservers.—From hence to Inverness,  
 275 And bind us further to you.

*Macb.* The rest is labour, which is not used for you ;  
 I'll be myself the harbinger, and make joyful  
 The hearing of my wife with your approach ;  
 So humbly take my leave.

*Dun.* My worthy Cawdor !  
 280 *Macb.* [*Aside.*] The prince of Cumberland !—That is  
 a step

Or which I must fall down on, else o'erleap,  
 For in my way it lies. Stars, hide your fires !  
 Let not light see my black and deep desires :  
 The eye wink at the hand ; yet let that be,  
 285 Which the eye fears, when it is done, to see. [*Exit.*]

*Dun.* True, worthy Banquo ; he is full so valiant ;  
 And in his commendations I am fed ;  
 It is a banquet to me. Let 's after him,

Whose care is gone before to bid us welcome :  
290 It is a peerless kinsman. [*Flourish. Exeunt.*]

SCENE V.—Inverness. *A room in MACBETH's Castle.*

*Enter LADY MACBETH, reading a letter.*

*Lady M.* "They met me in the day of success ; and I have learned by the perfectest report, they have more in them than mortal knowledge. When I burned in desire to question them further, they made themselves air, into which they vanished. Whiles I stood rapt in the wonder of it, came missives from the king, who all-hailed me, 'Thane of Cawdor ;' by which title, before, these weird sisters saluted me, and referred me to the coming on of time, with 'Hail, king that shalt be !' This have I thought good to deliver thee, my dearest partner of greatness ; that thou mightest not lose the dues of rejoicing, by being ignorant of what greatness is promised thee. Lay it to thy heart, and farewell."

Glamis thou art, and Cawdor ; and shalt be—  
What thou art promised :—Yet do I fear thy nature ;  
It is too full o' the milk of human kindness,  
To catch the nearest way : Thou wouldst be great ;  
295 Art not without ambition ; but without  
The illness should attend it. What thou wouldst highly,  
That wouldst thou holily ; wouldst not play false,  
And yet wouldst wrongly win : thou 'dst have, great Glamis,  
That which cries, "Thus thou must do, if thou have it ;  
300 And that which rather thou dost fear to do,  
Than wishest should be un-done." Hie thee hither,  
That I may pour my spirits in thine ear ;  
And chastise with the valour of my tongue  
All that impedes thee from the golden round,  
305 Which fate and metaphysical aid doth seem  
To have thee crowned withal.—

*Enter an Attendant.*

What is your tidings ?

*Atten.* The king comes here to-night.

*Lady M.* Thou 'rt mad to say it :  
Is not thy master with him ? who, were 't so,  
Would have inform'd for preparation.

310 *Atten.* So please you, it is true ; our thane is coming :  
One of my fellows had the speed of him ;

Who, almost dead for breath, had scarcely more  
Than would make up his message.

*Lady M.*

Give him tending;

He brings great news.

[*Exit Attendant.*]

The raven himself is hoarse

315 That croaks the fatal entrance of Duncan

Under my battlements. Come, you spirits

That tend on mortal thoughts, unsex me here;

And fill me, from the crown to the toe, top-full

Of direst cruelty! make thick my blood,

320 Stop up the access and passage to remorse;

That no compunctious visitings of nature

Shake my fell purpose, nor keep peace between

The effect and it! Come to my woman's breasts,

And take my milk for gall, you murdering ministers,

325 Wherever in your sightless substances

You wait on nature's mischief! Come, thick Night,

And pall thee in the dunnest smoke of hell!

That my keen knife see not the wound it makes;

Nor heaven peep through the blanket of the dark,

330 To cry, "Hold, hold!"——

*Enter MACBETH.*

Great Glamis! worthy Cawdor!

Greater than both, by the all-hail hereafter!

Thy letters have transported me beyond

This ignorant present, and I feel now

The future in the instant.

*Macb.*

My dearest love,

335 Duncan comes here to-night.

*Lady M.*

And when goes hence?

*Macb.* To-morrow,—as he purposes.

*Lady M.*

Oh, never

Shall sun that morrow see!

Your face, my thane, is as a book where men

May read strange matters:—To beguile the time,

340 Look like the time; bear welcome in your eye,

Your hand, your tongue: look like the innocent flower,

But be the serpent under it. He that's coming

Must be provided for: and you shall put



370 We coursed him at the heels, and had a purpose  
 To be his purveyor : but he rides well ;  
 And his great love, sharp as his spur, hath hold him  
 To his home before us : fair and noble hostess,  
 We are your guest to-night.

*Lady M.*

Your servants ever

375 Have theirs, themselves, and what is theirs, in compt,  
 To make their audit at your highness' pleasure,  
 Still to return your own.

*Dun.*

Give me your hand :

Conduct me to mine host ; we love him highly,  
 And shall continue our graces towards him.

380 By your leave, hostess.

[*Exeunt.*

SCENE VII.—*The same. A Room in the Castle.*

*Hautboys and torches. Enter, and pass over the stage, a  
 Sewer, and divers Servants with dishes and service. Then  
 enter MACBETH.*

*Macb.* If it were done when 't is done, then 't were  
 well

It were done quickly : If the assassination  
 Could trammel up the consequence, and catch,  
 With his surcease, success,—that but this blow  
 385 Might be the be-all and the end-all, here,  
 But here, upon this bank and shoal of time,—  
 We 'd jump the life to come. But in these cases,  
 We still have judgment here ; that we but teach  
 Bloody instructions, which, being taught, return  
 390 To plague the inventor : this even-handed justice  
 Commends the ingredients of our poisoned chalice  
 To our own lips. He 's here in double trust :  
 First, as I am his kinsman and his subject,  
 Strong both against the deed ; then, as his host,  
 395 Who should against his murderer shut the door,  
 Not bear the knife myself. Besides, this Duncan  
 Hath borne his faculties so meek, hath been  
 So clear in his great office, that his virtues  
 Will plead like angels, trumpet-tongued, against

- 400 The deep damnation of his taking-off:  
 And pity, like a naked new-born babe,  
 Striding the blast, or heaven's cherubim, horsed  
 Upon the sightless couriers of the air,  
 Shall blow the horrid deed in every eye,  
 405 That tears shall drown the wind.—I have no spur  
 To prick the sides of my intent, but only  
 Vaulting ambition, which o'erleaps itself,  
 And falls on the other—

*Enter LADY MACBETH.*

How now, what news?

*Lady M.* He has almost supp'd: why have you left  
 the chamber?

- 410 *Macb.* Hath he ask'd for me?

*Lady M.* Know you not he has?

- Macb.* We will proceed no further in this business:  
 He hath honour'd me of late; and I have bought  
 Golden opinions from all sorts of people,  
 Which would be worn now in their newest gloss,  
 415 Not cast aside so soon.

- Lady M.* Was the hope drunk,  
 Wherein you dress'd yourself? hath it slept since?  
 And wakes it now, to look so green and pale  
 At what it did so freely? From this time,  
 Such I account thy love. Art thou afeard  
 420 To be the same in thine own act and valour,  
 As thou art in desire? Wouldst thou have that  
 Which thou esteem'st the ornament of life,  
 And live a coward in thine own esteem;  
 Letting "I dare not" wait upon "I would,"  
 425 Like the poor cat i' the adage?

*Macb.* Prithee, peace:  
 I dare do all that may become a man;  
 Who dares do more, is none.

- Lady M.* What beast was't then,  
 That made you break this enterprise to me?  
 When you durst do it, then you were a man;  
 430 And, to be more than what you were, you would  
 Be so much more the man. Nor time, nor place,



Did then adhere, and yet you would make both :  
They have made themselves, and that their fitness now  
Does unmake you. I have given suck ; and know  
435 How tender 't is to love the babe that milks me :  
I would, while it was smiling in my face,  
Have pluck'd my nipple from his boneless gums,  
And dash'd the brains out, had I so sworn, as you  
Have done to this.

*Macb.*

If we should fail ?——

*Lady M.*

We fail !

440 But screw your courage to the sticking-place,  
And we'll not fail. When Duncan is asleep  
(Whereto the rather shall his day's hard journey  
Soundly invite him), his two chamberlains  
Will I with wine and wassail so convince,  
445 That memory, the warder of the brain,  
Shall be a fume, and the receipt of reason  
A limbeck only : when in swinish sleep  
Their drenched natures lie, as in a death,  
What cannot you and I perform upon  
450 The unguarded Duncan ? what not put upon  
His spongy officers ; who shall bear the guilt  
Of our great quell ?

*Macb.*

Bring forth men-children only ;

For thy undaunted mettle should compose  
Nothing but males. Will it not be received,  
455 When we have mark'd with blood those sleepy two  
Of his own chamber, and used their very daggers,  
That they have done 't ?

*Lady M.*

Who dares receive it other,

As we shall make our griefs and clamour roar  
Upon his death ?

*Macb.*

I am settled, and bend up

460 Each corporal agent to this terrible feat.  
Away, and mock the time with fairest show :  
False face must hide what the false heart doth know.

[*Exeunt.*]

## ACT II.

SCENE I.—*Inverness. Court of MACBETH's Castle.*

*Enter BANQUO, preceded by FLEANCE with a torch.*

*Ban.* How goes the night, boy?

*Fle.* The moon is down; I have not heard the clock.

*Ban.* And she goes down at twelve.

*Fle.* I take 't, 't is later, sir.

*Ban.* Hold, take my sword: there's husbandry in heaven,

5 Their candles are all out: take thee that too.

A heavy summons lies like lead upon me,

And yet I would not sleep: merciful powers!

Restrain in me the cursed thoughts that nature

Gives way to in repose!—Give me my sword;—

10 Who's there?

*Enter MACBETH, and a Servant with a torch.*

*Macb.* A friend.

*Ban.* What, sir, not yet at rest? The king's a-bed:

He hath been in unusual pleasure, and

Sent forth great largess to your officers:

15 This diamond he greets your wife withal,

By the name of most kind hostess; and shut up

In measureless content.

*Macb.*

Being unprepared,

Our will became the servant to defect;

Which else should free have wrought.

*Ban.*

All's well.—

20 I dreamt last night of the three weird sisters:

To you they have show'd some truth.

*Macb.*

I think not of them:

Yet, when we can entreat an hour to serve,

We would spend it in some words upon that business,

If you would grant the time.

*Ban.*

At your kind'st leisure.

25 *Macb.* If you shall cleave to my consent,—when 't is,

It shall make honour for you.

*Ban.* So I lose none,  
In seeking to augment it, but still keep  
My bosom franchised, and allegiance clear,  
I shall be counsell'd.

*Macb.* Good repose, the while !

30 *Ban.* Thanks, sir : the like to you !

[*Exeunt BANQUO and FLEANCE.*]

*Macb.* Go, bid thy mistress, when my drink is ready,  
She strike upon the bell. Get thee to bed. [*Exit Serv.*]  
Is this a dagger which I see before me,  
The handle toward my hand ? Come, let me clutch thee :

35 I have thee not, and yet I see thee still.

Art thou not, fatal vision, sensible  
To feeling, as to sight ? or art thou but  
A dagger of the mind, a false creation,  
Proceeding from the heat-oppressed brain ?

40 I see thee yet, in form as palpable  
As this which now I draw.

Thou marshall'st me the way that I was going,  
And such an instrument I was to use.

Mine eyes are made the fools o' the other senses,

45 Or else worth all the rest : I see thee still ;  
And on thy blade, and dudgeon, gouts of blood,  
Which was not so before.—There's no such thing.  
It is the bloody business which informs

Thus to mine eyes.—Now o'er the one half world

50 Nature seems dead, and wicked dreams abuse  
The curtain'd sleep : witchcraft celebrates  
Pale Hecate's offerings ; and wither'd murder,  
Alarum'd by his sentinel, the wolf,

Whose howl's his watch, thus with his stealthy pace,

55 With Tarquin's ravishing strides, towards his design,  
Moves like a ghost.—Thou sure and firm-set earth,  
Hear not my steps, which way they walk, for fear  
The very stones prate of my where-about,  
And take the present horror from the time,

60 Which now suits with it.—Whiles I threat, he lives :  
Words to the heat of deeds too cold breath gives.

[*A bell rings.*]

I go, and it is done ; the bell invites me.  
Hear it not, Duncan ; for it is a knell  
That summons thee to heaven, or to hell. [Exit.

*Enter* LADY MACBETH.

- 65 *Lady M.* That which hath made them drunk hath made  
me bold :  
What hath quench'd them hath given me fire :—Hark !—  
Peace !  
It was the owl that shriek'd, the fatal bellman  
Which gives the stern'st good night. He is about it :  
The doors are open ; and the surfeited grooms  
70 Do mock their charge with snores : I have drugg'd their  
possets,  
That death and nature do contend about them,  
Whether they live, or die.  
*Macb.* [Within.] Who's there ?—what, ho !  
*Lady M.* Alack ! I am afraid they have awaked,  
And 't is not done :—the attempt, and not the deed,  
75 Confounds us :—Hark !—I laid their daggers ready,  
He could not miss them.—Had he not resembled  
My father as he slept I had done 't—My husband !

*Enter* MACBETH.

- Macb.* I have done the deed :—Didst thou not hear a  
noise ?  
*Lady M.* I heard the owl scream, and the crickets  
cry.  
80 Did not you speak ?  
*Macb.* When ?  
*Lady M.* Now.  
*Macb.* As I descended ?  
*Lady M.* Ay.  
*Macb.* Hark !—  
Who lies i' the second chamber ?  
*Lady M.* Donalbain.  
*Macb.* This is a sorry sight. [Looking on his hands.  
85 *Lady M.* A foolish thought, to say a sorry sight.

*Macb.* There's one did laugh in his sleep, and one cried,  
"murther!"

That they did wake each other; I stood and heard them:  
But they did say their prayers, and address'd them  
Again to sleep.

90 *Lady M.* There are two lodged together.

*Macb.* One cried, "God bless us!" and "Amen," the  
other;

As they had seen me, with these hangman's hands.  
Listening their fear, I could not say, "amen,"  
When they did say, "God bless us."

*Lady M.* Consider it not so deeply.

95 *Macb.* But wherefore could I not pronounce, "amen?"  
I had most need of blessing, and "amen"  
Stuck in my throat.

*Lady M.* These deeds must not be thought  
After these ways; so, it will make us mad.

*Macb.* Methought I heard a voice cry, "Sleep no  
more!

100 Macbeth does murther sleep,"—the innocent sleep,  
Sleep, that knits up the ravell'd sleeve of care,  
The death of each day's life, sore labour's bath,  
Balm of hurt minds, great nature's second course,  
Chief nourisher in life's feast,—

*Lady M.* What do you mean?

105 *Macb.* Still it cried, "Sleep no more!" to all the  
house:

"Glamis hath murther'd sleep: and therefore Cawdor  
Shall sleep no more, Macbeth shall sleep no more!"

*Lady M.* Who was it that thus cried? Why, worthy  
thane,

You do unbend your noble strength, to think

110 So brainsickly of things:—Go, get some water,  
And wash this filthy witness from your hand.—  
Why did you bring these daggers from the place?  
They must lie there: go, carry them; and smear  
The sleepy grooms with blood.

*Macb.* I'll go no more:

115 I am afraid to think what I have done;  
Look on't again I dare not.

- Lady M.* Infirm of purpose!  
Give me the daggers: The sleeping, and the dead,  
Are but as pictures; 'tis the eye of childhood  
That fears a painted devil. If he do bleed,  
120 I'll gild the faces of the grooms withal,  
For it must seem their guilt. [*Exit. Knocking within.*  
*Macb.* Whence is that knocking?  
How is 't with me, when every noise appals me?  
What hands are here? Ha! they pluck out mine eyes!  
Will all great Neptune's ocean wash this blood  
125 Clean from my hand? No; this my hand will rather  
The multitudinous seas incarnadine,  
Making the green one red.

*Re-enter LADY MACBETH.*

- Lady M.* My hands are of your colour; but I shame  
To wear a heart so white. [*Knock.*] I hear a knocking  
130 At the south entry:—retire we to our chamber:  
A little water clears us of this deed:  
How easy is it then! Your constancy  
Hath left you unattended.—[*Knocking.*] Hark! more  
knocking:  
Get on your nightgown, lest occasion call us,  
135 And show us to be watchers:—Be not lost  
So poorly in your thoughts.

*Macb.* To know my deed, 't were best not know myself.  
[*Knock.*  
Wake Duncan with thy knocking!—I would thou couldst!  
[*Exeunt.*

*Enter a Porter.* [*Knocking within.*

- Port.* Here's a knocking, indeed! If a man were  
140 porter of hall-gate, he should have old turning the key.  
[*Knocking.*] Knock, knock, knock! Who's there, i' the  
name of Beelzebub? Here's a farmer, that hanged him-  
self on the expectation of plenty: Come in time; have  
napkins enough about you; here you'll sweat for 't.  
145 [*Knocking.*] Knock, knock: Who's there, i' the other

- devil's name? 'Faith, here 's an equivocator, that could swear in both the scales against either scale; who committed treason enough for God's sake, yet could not equivocate to heaven: oh, come in, equivocator. [*Knocking.*]
- 150 Knock, knock, knock: Who 's there? 'Faith, here 's an English tailor come hither, for stealing out of a French hose: Come in, tailor; here you may roast your goose. [*Knocking.*] Knock, knock: Never at quiet! What are you?—But this place is too cold for hell. I 'll devil-porter
- 155 it no further: I had thought to have let in some of all professions, that go the primrose way to the everlasting bonfire. [*Knocking.*] Anon, anon! [*Opens the gate.*] I pray you, remember the porter.

*Enter MACDUFF and LENOX.*

- Macd.* Was it so late, friend, ere you went to bed,  
That you do lie so late?
- 160 *Port.* 'Faith, sir, we were carousing till the second cock.
- 175 *Macd.* Is thy master stirring?—  
Our knocking has awaked him; here he comes.

*Enter MACBETH.*

- Len.* Good morrow, noble sir!
- Macb.* Good morrow, both!
- Macd.* Is the king stirring, worthy thane?
- Macb.* Not yet.
- Macd.* He did command me to call timely on him;
- 180 I have almost slipp'd the hour.
- Macb.* I 'll bring you to him.
- Macd.* I know this is a joyful trouble to you;  
But yet 't is one.
- Macb.* The labour we delight in physies pain.  
This is the door.
- Macd.* I 'll make so bold to call,
- 185 For 't is my limited service. [*Exit.*]
- Len.* Goes the king hence to-day?
- Macb.* He does: he did appoint so.
- Len.* The night has been unruly: Where we lay,

- Our chimneys were blown down : and as they say,  
Lamentings heard i' the air ; strange screams of death :  
190 And prophesying, with accents terrible,  
Of dire combustion and confused events  
New hatch'd to the woful time, the obscure bird  
Clamour'd the livelong night : some say, the earth  
Was feverous, and did shake.  
*Macb.* 'T was a rough night.  
195 *Len.* My young remembrance cannot parallel  
A fellow to it.

*Re-enter MACDUFF.*

- Macd.* O horror ! horror ! horror ! Tongue, nor heart,  
Cannot conceive, nor name thee !  
*Macb., Len.* What's the matter ?  
*Macd.* Confusion now hath made his masterpiece !  
200 Most sacrilegious murder hath broke ope  
The Lord's anointed temple, and stole thence  
The life o' the building.  
*Macb.* What is 't you say ? the life ?  
*Len.* Mean you his majesty ?  
*Macd.* Approach the chamber, and destroy your sight  
205 With a new Gorgon :—Do not bid me speak ;  
See, and then speak yourselves.

[*Exeunt MACBETH and LENOX.*

Awake ! awake !—

- Ring the alarum-bell :—Murder ! and treason !  
Banquo, and Donalbain ! Malcolm ! awake !  
210 Shake off this downy sleep, death's counterfeit,  
And look on death itself :—up, up, and see  
The great doom's image ! Malcolm ! Banquo !  
As from your graves rise up, and walk like sprites,  
To countenance this horror ! [*Alarum-bell rings.*

*Enter LADY MACBETH.*

- Lady M.* What's the business,  
215 That such a hideous trumpet calls to parley  
The sleepers of the house ? speak, speak !



*Macd.* Oh, gentle lady,  
 'Tis not for you to hear what I can speak :  
 The repetition in a woman's ear,  
 220 Would murder as it fell.—

*Enter BANQUO.*

O Banquo ! Banquo !  
 Our royal master 's murder'd !

*Lady M.* Woe, alas !  
 What, in our house ?

*Ban.* Too cruel, anywhere.—  
 Dear Duff, I prithee, contradict thyself,  
 And say it is not so.

*Re-enter MACBETH and LENOX.*

225 *Macb.* Had I but died an hour before this chance,  
 I had lived a blessed time ; for, from this instant,  
 There's nothing serious in mortality :  
 All is but toys : renown, and grace, is dead ;  
 The wine of life is drawn, and the mere lees  
 230 Is left this vault to brag of.

*Enter MALCOLM and DONALDBAIN.*

*Don.* What is amiss ?

*Macb.* You are, and do not know 't :  
 The spring, the head, the fountain of your blood  
 Is stopp'd ; the very source of it is stopp'd.

*Macd.* Your royal father 's murder'd.

*Mal.* Oh ! by whom ?  
 235 *Len.* Those of his chamber, as it seemed, had done 't :  
 Their hands and faces were all badged with blood,  
 So were their daggers, which, unwiped, we found  
 Upon their pillows :  
 They stared, and were distracted ; no man's life  
 • 240 Was to be trusted with them.

*Macb.* Oh, yet I do repent me of my fury,  
 That I did kill them.

*Macd.* Wherefore did you so ?

*Macb.* Who can be wise, amased, temperate, and  
 furious,

- Loyal, and neutral, in a moment? No man :
- 245 The expedition of my violent love  
Outrun the pauser, reason.—Here lay Duncan,  
His silver skin laced with his golden blood ;  
And his gashed stabs looked like a breach in nature  
For ruin's wasteful entrance : there, the murderers,  
250 Steeped in the colours of their trade, their daggers  
Unmannerly breech'd with gore : Who could refrain  
That had a heart to love, and in that heart  
Courage to make his love known ?  
*Lady M.* Help me hence, ho !  
*Macd.* Look to the lady.  
*Mal.* Why do we hold our tongues,  
255 That most may claim this argument for ours ?  
*Don.* What should be spoken here, where our fate,  
Hid in an auger-hole, may rush, and seize us ?  
Let's away ;  
Our tears are not yet brew'd.  
*Mal.* Nor our strong sorrow  
260 Upon the foot of motion.  
*Ban.* Look to the lady :—  
[*LADY MACBETH is carried out.*  
And when we have our naked frailties hid,  
That suffer in exposure, let us meet,  
And question this most bloody piece of work,  
To know it further. Fears and scruples shake us :  
265 In the great hand of God I stand ; and thence,  
Against the undivulged pretence I fight,  
Of treasonous malice.  
*Macd.* And so do I.  
*All.* So all.  
*Macb.* Let's briefly put on manly readiness,  
And meet i' the hall together.  
270 *All.* Well contented.  
[*Exeunt all but MAL. and DON.*  
*Mal.* What will you do ? Let's not consort with them :  
To show an unfelt sorrow is an office  
Which the false man does easy : I'll to England.  
*Don.* To Ireland, I ; our separated fortune  
275 Shall keep us both the safer : where we are,

There's daggers in men's smiles : the near in blood,  
The nearer bloody.

*Mal.* This murderous shaft that's shot  
Hath not yet lighted ; and our safest way  
Is to avoid the aim. Therefore, to horse ;  
280 And let us not be dainty of leave-taking,  
But shift away : There's warrant in that theft  
Which steals itself, when there's no mercy left. [*Exit.*]

SCENE II.—*The same. Without the Castle.*

*Enter Rosse and an Old Man.*

*Old M.* Threescore and ten I can remember well :  
Within the volume of which time, I have seen  
285 Hours dreadful, and things strange ; but this sore night  
Hath trifled former knowings.

*Rosse.* Ah, good father,  
Thou see'st, the heavens, as troubled with man's act,  
Threaten his bloody stage : by the clock, 't is day,  
And yet dark night strangles the travelling lamp :  
290 Is 't night's predominance, or the day's shame,  
That darkness does the face of earth entomb,  
When living light should kiss it ?

*Old M.* 'T is unnatural,  
Even like the deed that's done. On Tuesday last,  
A falcon, towering in her pride of place,  
295 Was by a mousing-owl hawked at and kill'd.

*Rosse.* And Duncan's horses (a thing most strange  
and certain),  
Beauteous and swift, the minions of their race,  
Turned wild in nature, broke their stalls, flung out,  
Contending 'gainst obedience, as they would  
Make war with mankind.

300 *Old M.* 'T is said, they eat each other.

*Rosse.* They did so ; to the amazement of mine eyes,  
That looked upon 't. Here comes the good Macduff :—

*Enter MACDUFF.*

How goes the world, sir, now ?

*Macd.*

Why, see you not ?

*Rosse.* Is't known who did this more than bloody deed?

305 *Macd.* Those that Macbeth hath slain.

*Rosse.* Alas, the day!  
What good could they pretend?

*Macd.* They were suborn'd :  
Malcolm, and Donalbain, the king's two sons,  
Are stol'n away and fled ; which puts upon them  
Suspicion of the deed.

*Rosse.* 'Gainst nature still :  
310 Thriftless ambition, that will ravin up  
Thine own life's means !—Then 't is most like  
The sovereignty will fall upon Macbeth.

*Macd.* He is already named ; and gone to Scone,  
To be invested.

*Rosse.* Where is Duncan's body ?

315 *Macd.* Carried to Colme-kill,  
The sacred storehouse of his predecessors,  
And guardian of their bones.

*Rosse.* Will you to Scone ?

*Macd.* No, cousin, I'll to Fife.

*Rosse.* Well, I will thither.

*Macd.* Well, may you see things well done there :—  
adieu !—

320 Lest our old robes sit easier than our new !

*Rosse.* Farewell, father.

*Old M.* God's benison go with you, and with those  
That would make good of bad, and friends of foes !

[*Exeunt.*]

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### ACT III.

SCENE I.—Forres. *A Room in the Palace.*

*Enter BANQUO.*

*Ban.* Thou hast it now,—king, Cawdor, Glamis, all,—  
As the weird women promised ; and I fear

- Thou play'dst most foully for 't : yet it was said,  
It should not stand in thy posterity ;  
5 But that myself should be the root and father  
Of many kings. If there come truth from them  
(As upon thee, Macbeth, their speeches shine),  
Why, by the verities on thee made good,  
May they not be my oracles as well,  
10 And set me up in hope ? But, hush ; no more.

*Sennet sounded. Enter MACBETH, as King ; LADY MACBETH  
as Queen ; LENOX, ROSSE, Lords, Ladies, and Atten-  
dants.*

*Macb.* Here 's our chief guest.

*Lady M.* If he had been forgotten,  
It had been as a gap in our great feast,  
And all-thing unbecoming.

- Macb.* To-night we hold a solemn supper, sir,  
15 And I'll request your presence.

*Ban.* Let your highness  
Command upon me ; to the which my duties  
Are with a most indissoluble tie  
For ever knit.

*Macb.* Ride you this afternoon ?

- Ban.* Ay, my good lord.  
20 *Macb.* We should have else desired your good advice  
(Which still hath been both grave and prosperous)  
In this day's council ; but we 'll take to-morrow.  
Is 't far you ride ?

- Ban.* As far, my lord, as will fill up the time  
25 'Twixt this and supper : go not my horse the better,  
I must become a borrower of the night,  
For a dark hour, or twain.

*Macb.* Fail not our feast.

*Ban.* My lord, I will not.

- Macb.* We hear, our bloody cousins are bestow'd  
30 In England, and in Ireland ; not confessing  
Their cruel parricide, filling their hearers  
With strange invention : but of that to-morrow ;  
When, therewithal, we shall have cause of state,

Craving us jointly. Hie you to horse : Adieu,

35 Till you return at night. Goes Fleance with you ?

*Ban.* Ay, my good lord : our time does call upon us.

*Macb.* I wish your horses swift and sure of foot ;

And so I do commend you to their backs.

Farewell.

[*Exit BANQUO.*]

40 Let every man be master of his time

Till seven at night ; to make society

The sweeter welcome, we will keep ourself

Till supper-time alone : while then, God be wi' you.

[*Exeunt LADY MACBETH, Lords, Ladies, etc.*]

Sirrah, a word ;—attend those men our pleasure ?

45 *Attend.* They are, my lord, without the palace gate.

*Macb.* Bring them before us.—[*Exit Attendant.*]

To be thus, is nothing ;

But to be safely thus :—our fears in Banquo

Stick deep ; and in his royalty of nature

Reigns that which would be fear'd : 't is much he dares ;

50 And, to that dauntless temper of his mind,

He hath a wisdom that doth guide his valour

To act in safety. There is none but he

Whose being I do fear : and under him

My Genius is rebuked ; as, it is said,

55 Mark Antony's was by Cæsar. He chid the sisters,

When first they put the name of king upon me,

And bade them speak to him ; then, prophet-like,

They hailed him father to a line of kings :

Upon my head they placed a fruitless crown,

60 And put a barren sceptre in my gripe,

Thence to be wrench'd with an unlineal hand,

No son of mine succeeding. If it be so,

For Banquo's issue have I filed my mind ;

For them the gracious Duncan have I murder'd :

65 Put rancours in the vessel of my peace,

Only for them ; and mine eternal jewel

Given to the common enemy of man,

To make them kings,—the seed of Banquo, kings !

Rather than so, come, fate, into the list,

70 And champion me to the utterance !—Who's there ?—

*Re-enter Attendant, with two Murderers.*

Now go to the door, and stay there till we call.

[*Exit Attendant.*]

Was it not yesterday we spoke together?

1 *Mur.* It was, so please your highness.

*Macb.*

Well then, now

Have you consider'd my speeches? Know

75 That it was he, in the times past, which held you  
So under fortune; which, you thought, had been  
Our innocent self: this I made good to you  
In our last conference; passed in probation with you,  
How you were borne in hand, how cross'd; the instruments;  
80 Who wrought with them; and all things else that might,  
To half a soul, and to a notion crazed,  
Say, "Thus did Banquo."

1 *Mur.*

You made it known to us.

*Macb.* I did so; and went further, which is now

Our point of second meeting. Do you find

85 Your patience so predominant in your nature,  
That you can let this go? Are you so gossell'd  
To pray for this good man and for his issue,  
Whose heavy hand hath bow'd you to the grave,  
And beggar'd yours for ever?

1 *Mur.*

We are men, my liege.

90 *Macb.* Ay, in the catalogue ye go for men;  
As hounds, and greyhounds, mongrels, spaniels, curs,  
Shoughs, water-rugs, and demi-wolves, are clept  
All by the name of dogs: the valued file  
Distinguishes the swift, the slow, the subtle,  
95 The housekeeper, the hunter, every one  
According to the gift which bounteous nature  
Hath in him closed; whereby he does receive  
Particular addition, from the bill  
That writes them all alike: and so of men.

100 Now, if you have a station in the file,  
Not in the worst rank of manhood, say it;  
And I will put that business in your bosoms  
Whose execution takes your enemy off;  
Grapples you to the heart and love of us,  
105 Who wear our health but sickly in his life,

Which in his death were perfect.

2 *Mur.* I am one, my liege,  
Whom the vile blows and buffets of the world  
Have so incensed, that I am reckless what  
I do to spite the world.

1 *Mur.* And I another,  
110 So weary with disasters, tugg'd with fortune,  
That I would set my life on any chance,  
To mend it, or be rid on 't.

*Macb.* Both of you  
Know, Banquo was your enemy.

2 *Mur.* True, my lord.

*Macb.* So is he mine; and in such bloody distance  
115 That every minute of his being thrusts  
Against my near'st of life: and though I could  
With bare-faced power sweep him from my sight,  
And bid my will avouch it, yet I must not,  
For certain friends that are both his and mine,  
120 Whose loves I may not drop, but wail his fall  
Whom I myself struck down: and thence it is  
That I to your assistance do make love;  
Masking the business from the common eye,  
For sundry weighty reasons.

2 *Mur.* We shall, my lord,  
125 Perform what you command us.

1 *Mur.* Though our lives——

*Macb.* Your spirits shine through you. Within this hour  
at most,

I will advise you where to plant yourselves;  
Acquaint you with the perfect spy o' the time,  
The moment on 't; for 't must be done to-night,  
130 And something from the palace; always thought  
That I require a clearness. And with him  
(To leave no rubs nor botches in the work)  
Fleance his son, that keeps him company,  
Whose absence is no less material to me  
135 Than is his father's, must embrace the fate  
Of that dark hour. Resolve yourselves apart;  
I'll come to you anon.

Both *Mur.* We are resolved, my lord.



- Macb.* I'll call upon you straight: abide within. [*Ex. Ms.*  
 It is concluded :—Banquo, thy soul's flight,  
 140 If it find heaven, must find it out to-night. [*Exit.*

SCENE II.—*The same. Another Room.*

*Enter LADY MACBETH and a Servant.*

*Lady M.* Is Banquo gone from court?

*Serv.* Ay, madam, but returns again to-night.

*Lady M.* Say to the king, I would attend his leisure  
 For a few words.

*Serv.* Madam, I will. [*Exit.*

- Lady M.* Naught's had, all's spent,  
 145 Where our desire is got without content :  
 'Tis safer to be that which we destroy,  
 Than, by destruction, dwell in doubtful joy.

*Enter MACBETH.*

- How now, my lord ! why do you keep alone,  
 Of sorriest fancies your companions making ;  
 150 Using those thoughts which should indeed have died  
 With them they think on ? Things without all remedy  
 Should be without regard : what's done is done.  
*Macb.* We have scotch'd the snake, not kill'd it :  
 She'll close, and be herself ; whilst our poor malice  
 155 Remains in danger of her former tooth.  
 But let the frame of things disjoint, both the worlds suffer,  
 Ere we will eat our meal in fear, and sleep  
 In the affliction of these terrible dreams  
 That shake us nightly : better be with the dead,  
 160 Whom we, to gain our peace, have sent to peace,  
 Than on the torture of the mind to lie  
 In restless ecstasy. Duncan is in his grave ;  
 After life's fitful fever he sleeps well ;  
 Treason has done his worst : nor steel, nor poison,  
 165 Malice domestic, foreign levy, nothing,  
 Can touch him further !

*Lady M.* Come on ;  
 Gentle, my lord, sleek o'er your rugged looks ;  
 Be bright and jovial 'mong your guests to-night.

- 170 *Macb.* So shall I, love; and so, I pray, be you :  
 Let your remembrance apply to Banquo ;  
 Present him eminence, both with eye and tongue :  
 Unsafe the while, that we  
 Must lave our honours in these flattering streams ;  
 175 And make our faces vizards to our hearts,  
 Disguising what they are.

*Lady M.* You must leave this.

*Macb.* Oh, full of scorpions is my mind, dear wife!  
 Thou know'st that Banquo, and his Fleance, lives.

*Lady M.* But in them nature's copy's not eterne.

- 180 *Macb.* There's comfort yet; they are assailable ;  
 Then be thou jocund : Ere the bat hath flown  
 His cloister'd flight; ere, to black Hecate's summons,  
 The shard-borne beetle, with his drowsy hums,  
 Hath rung night's yawning peal, there shall be done  
 185 A deed of dreadful note.

*Lady M.* What's to be done ?

- Macb.* Be innocent of the knowledge, dearest chuck,  
 Till thou applaud the deed.—Come, seeling night,  
 Scarf up the tender eye of pitiful day ;  
 And, with thy bloody and invisible hand,  
 190 Cancel, and tear to pieces, that great bond  
 Which keeps me pale !—Light thickens; and the crow  
 Makes wing to the rooky wood ;  
 Good things of day begin to droop and drowse ;  
 Whiles night's black agents to their prey do rouse.—  
 195 Thou marvell'st at my words : but hold thee still ;  
 Things bad begun make strong themselves by ill :  
 So, prithee, go with me. *[Exeunt.]*

SCENE III.—*The same. A Park, with a Gate leading to the Palace.*

*Enter three Murderers.*

- 1 *Mur.* But who did bid thee join with us ?  
 3 *Mur.* *Macbeth.*  
 2 *Mur.* He needs not our mistrust; since he delivers  
 200 Our offices, and what we have to do,  
 To the direction just.

**1 Mur.**                      **Then stand with us.**

The west yet glimmers with some streaks of day.

Now spurs the lated traveller apace,

To gain the timely inn; and near approaches

205 The subject of our watch.

3 *Mur.* Hark ! I hear horses.

*Ban.* [*Within.*] Give us a light there, ho !

**2 Mur.** Then 't is he ; the rest

**That are within the note of expectation,**

**Already are i' the court.**

1 *Mur.* His horses go about.

3 *Mur.* Almost a mile ; but he does usually,

210 So all men do, from hence to the palace gate

**Make it their walk.**

2 *Mur.*                      A light, a light !

3 *Mur.* 'T is he.

1 *Mur.* Stand to 't.

*Enter BANQUO, and FLEANCE. With a torch.*

*Ban.* It will be rain to-night.

1 *Mur.* Let it come down.

[*Assaults* BANQUO.

*Ban.* O, treachery! Fly, good Fleance, fly, fly, fly;

215 Thou mayst revenge.—O slave!

[*Dies.* FLEANCE *escapes.*

3 *Mur.* Who did strike out the light?

1 *Mur.* Was 't not the way?

**3 Mur.** There 's but one down ; the son is fled.

2 *Mur.* We have lost best half of our affair.

1 *Mur.* Well, let's away, and say how much is done.

[*Exeunt.*]

SCENE IV.—*A Room of State in the Palace. A Banquet prepared.*

*Enter* MACBETH, LADY MACBETH, ROSSE, LENOX,  
Lords, and Attendants.

220 *Macb.* You know your own degrees, sit down : at first  
And last, the hearty welcome.

*Lords.* Thanks to your majesty.

*Macb.* Ourselves will mingle with society,  
And play the humble host.  
Our hostess keeps her state; but, in best time,  
225 We will require her welcome.

*Lady M.* Pronounce it for me, sir, to all our friends;  
For my heart speaks, they are welcome.

*Macb.* See, they encounter thee with their hearts'  
thanks :

Both sides are even : Here I'll sit i' the midst :  
230 Be large in mirth ; anon, we'll drink a measure  
The table round.—

*Enter first Murderer, to the door.*

There's blood upon thy face.

*Mur.* 'T is Banquo's then.

*Macb.* 'T is better thee without, than he within.  
Is he despatch'd ?

235 *Mur.* My lord, his throat is cut ; that I did for him.

*Macb.* Thou art the best o' the cut-throats : Yet he's  
good,

That did the like for Fleance : if thou didst it,  
Thou art the nonpareil.

*Mur.* Most royal sir,  
Fleance is 'scaped.

240 *Macb.* Then comes my fit again : I had else been  
perfect ;

Whole as the marble, founded as the rock :

As broad and general as the casing air :

But now, I am cabin'd, cribb'd, confined, bound in  
To saucy doubts and fears. But Banquo's safe ?

245 *Mur.* Ay, my good lord : safe in a ditch he bides,  
With twenty trenchèd gashes on his head ;  
The least, a death to nature.

*Macb.* Thanks for that :

There the grown serpent lies ; the worm that's fled

Hath nature that in time will venom breed,

250 No teeth for the present.—Get thee gone ; to-morrow  
We'll hear, ourselves again. [*Exit Murderer.*]

*Lady M.* My royal lord,  
You do not give the cheer ; the feast is sold

That is not often vouch'd, while 't is a-making,  
'T is given with welcome : to feed, were best at home ;  
255 From thence, the sauce to meat is ceremony,—  
Meeting were bare without it.

*Macb.* Sweet remembrancer !—

Now, good digestion, wait on appetite,  
And health on both !

*Len.* May it please your highness, sit ?

*The Ghost of BANQUO rises, and sits in MACBETH's place.*

*Macb.* Here had we now our country's honour roof'd,  
260 Were the graced person of our Banquo present ;  
Who may I rather challenge for unkindness  
Than pity for mischance !

*Rosse.* His absence, sir,  
Lays blame upon his promise. Please it your highness  
To grace us with your royal company ?

265 *Macb.* The table's full.

*Len.* Here is a place reserved, sir.

*Macb.* Where ?

*Len.* Here, my good lord. What is 't that moves  
your highness ?

*Macb.* Which of you have done this ?

*Lords.* What, my good lord ?

*Macb.* Thou canst not say I did it : never shake  
270 Thy gory locks at me.

*Rosse.* Gentlemen, rise ; his highness is not well.

*Lady M.* Sit, worthy friends :—my lord is often thus,  
And hath been from his youth : 'pray you, keep seat ;  
The fit is momentary ; upon a thought  
275 He will again be well : if much you note him,  
You shall offend him, and extend his passion ;  
Feed, and regard him not.—Are you a man ?

*Macb.* Ay, and a bold one, that dare look on that  
Which might appal the devil.

*Lady M.* O proper stuff !  
280 This is the very painting of your fear :  
This is the air-drawn dagger, which, you said,  
Led you to Duncan. O, these flaws, and starts  
(Impostors to true fear), would well become

A woman's story, at a winter's fire,

285 Authorized by her grandam. Shame itself!

Why do you make such faces? When all's done,  
You look but on a stool.

*Macb.* Prithee, see there! behold! look! lo! how say  
you?—

Why, what care I? If thou canst nod, speak too.—

290 If charnel-houses, and our graves, must send

Those that we bury, back, our monuments

Shall be the maws of kites.

[*Ghost disappears.*]

*Lady M.* What! quite unmann'd in folly?

*Macb.* If I stand here, I saw him.

*Lady M.* Fie, for shame!

295 *Macb.* Blood hath been shed ere now, i' the olden time,

Ere human statute purged the gentle weal;

Ay, and since too, murders have been perform'd

Too terrible for the ear: the times have been,

That, when the brains were out, the man would die,

300 And there an end; but now they rise again,

With twenty mortal murders on their crowns,

And push us from our stools: This is more strange

Than such a murder is.

*Lady M.* My worthy lord,

Your noble friends do lack you.

*Macb.* I do forget:—

305 Do not muse at me, my most worthy friends;

I have a strange infirmity, which is nothing

To those that know me. Come, love and health to all,

Then I'll sit down:—Give me some wine, fill full:—

I drink to the general joy of the whole table,

310 And to our dear friend Banquo, whom we miss:

Would he were here! to all, and him, we thirst,

And all to all.

*Lords.* Our duties, and the pledge.

[*Ghost re-appears.*]

*Macb.* Avaunt! and quit my sight! Let the earth  
hide thee!

Thy bones are marrowless, thy blood is cold;

315 Thou hast no speculation in those eyes

Which thou dost glare with !

*Lady M.* Think of this, good peers,  
But as a thing of custom : 't is no other ;  
Only it spoils the pleasure of the time.

*Macb.* What man dare, I dare :

320 Approach thou like the rugged Russian bear,  
The arm'd rhinoceros, or the Hyrcan tiger,  
Take any shape but that, and my firm nerves  
Shall never tremble : Or, be alive again ;  
And dare me to the desert with thy sword ;

325 If trembling I inhabit then, protest me  
The baby of a girl. Hence, horrible shadow !  
Unreal mockery, hence !—

[*Ghost disappears*

Why, so ;—being gone,

I am a man again.—Pray you, sit still.

*Lady M.* You have displaced the mirth, broke the good  
meeting,

330 With most admired disorder.

*Macb.*

Can such things be,

And over-come us like a summer's cloud,  
Without our special wonder ? You make me strange  
Even to the disposition that I owe,  
When now I think you can behold such sights,  
335 And keep the natural ruby of your cheeks,  
When mine are blanch'd with fear.

*Rosse.*

What sights, my lord ?

*Lady M.* I pray you, speak not ; he grows worse and  
worse ;

Question enrages him : at once, good night :—  
Stand not upon the order of your going,

340 But go at once.

*Len.*

Good night, and better health

Attend his majesty !

*Lady M.*

A kind good night to all !

[*Exeunt Lords and Attendants.*

*Macb.* It will have blood ; they say, blood will have  
blood :

Stones have been known to move, and trees to speak ;  
Augurs, and understood relations, have

345 By magot-pies, and choughs, and rooks, brought forth

The secret'st man of blood.—What is the night?

*Lady M.* Almost at odds with morning, which is which.

*Macb.* How say'st thou, that Macduff denies his person,  
At our great bidding?

*Lady M.* Did you send to him, sir?

350 *Macb.* I hear it by the way; but I will send:

There's not a one of them, but in his house

I keep a servant fee'd. I will to-morrow

(And betimes I will) to the weird sisters:

More shall they speak. For now I am bent to know,

355 By the worst means, the worst: for mine own good,

All causes shall give way; I am in blood

Stepp'd in so far, that, should I wade no more,

Returning were as tedious as go o'er:

Strange things I have in head, that will to hand;

360 Which must be acted, ere they may be scann'd.

*Lady M.* You lack the season of all natures, sleep.

*Macb.* Come, we'll to sleep: My strange and self-abuse  
Is the initiate fear, that wants hard use:—

We are yet but young in deed. [Exeunt.]

SCENE V.—*The Heath. Thunder.*

*Enter HECATE, meeting the three Witches.*

365 1 *Witch.* Why, how now, Hecate? you look angrily.

*Hec.* Have I not reason, beldams as you are,

Saucy, and over-bold? How did you dare

To trade and traffic with Macbeth,

In riddles and affairs of death;

370 And I, the mistress of your charms,

The close contriver of all harms,

Was never call'd to bear my part,

Or show the glory of our art?

And, which is worse, all you have done

375 Hath been but for a wayward son,

Spiteful, and wrathful; who, as others do,

Loves for his own ends, not for you.

But make amends now: Get you gone,

And at the pit of Acheron



- 380 Meet me i' the morning; thither he  
Will come to know his destiny.  
Your vessels, and your spells, provide,  
Your charms, and everything beside :  
I'm for the air; this night I'll spend  
385 Unto a dismal and a fatal end.  
Great business must be wrought ere noon :  
Upon the corner of the moon  
There hangs a vaporous drop, profound ;  
I'll catch it ere it comes to ground :  
390 And that, distill'd by magic slights,  
Shall raise such artificial sprites,  
As, by the strength of their illusion,  
Shall draw him on to his confusion :  
He shall spurn fate, scorn death, and bear  
395 His hopes 'bove wisdom, grace, and fear :  
And you all know, security  
Is mortal's chiefest enemy.  
[*Song Within.* "Come away, come away," etc.]  
Hark, I am call'd; my little spirit, see,  
Sits in a foggy cloud, and stays for me. [Exit.  
400 1 Witch. Come, let's make haste; she'll soon be back  
again. [Exeunt.]

SCENE VI.—Forres. *A Room in the Palace.*

*Enter LENOX, and another Lord.*

- Len.* My former speeches have but hit your thoughts,  
Which can interpret farther: only, I say,  
Things have been strangely borne. The gracious Duncan  
Was pitied of Macbeth:—marry, he was dead:—  
405 And the right-valiant Banquo walked too late;  
Whom, you may say, if't please you, Fleance kill'd,  
For Fleance fled: men must not walk too late.  
Who cannot want the thought, how monstrous  
It was for Malcolm, and for Donalbain,  
410 To kill their gracious father? damnèd fact!  
How it did grieve Macbeth! did he not straight,  
In pious rage, the two delinquents tear,  
That were the slaves of drink, and thralls of sleep:

- Was not that nobly done? Ay, and wisely too;  
 415 For 't would have anger'd any heart alive  
 To hear the men deny 't. So that, I say,  
 He has borne all things well: and I do think,  
 That, had he Duncan's sons under his key  
 (As, an 't please heaven, he shall not), they should find  
 420 What 't were to kill a father; so should Fleance.  
 But, peace!—for from broad words, and 'cause he fail'd  
 His presence at the tyrant's feast, I hear,  
 Macduff lives in disgrace: Sir, can you tell  
 Where he bestows himself?

- Lord.* The son of Duncan,  
 425 From whom this tyrant holds the due of birth,  
 Lives in the English court; and is received  
 Of the most pious Edward with such grace,  
 That the malevolence of fortune nothing  
 Takes from his high respect: Thither Macduff  
 430 Is gone to pray the holy king, upon his aid  
 To wake Northumberland, and warlike Siward:  
 That, by the help of these (with Him above  
 To ratify the work), we may again  
 Give to our tables meat, sleep to our nights;  
 435 Free from our feasts and banquets bloody knives;  
 Do faithful homage, and receive free honours;—  
 All which we pine for now: And this report  
 Hath so exasperate the king, that he  
 Prepares for some attempt of war.

- Len.* Sent he to Macduff?  
 440 *Lord.* He did: and with an absolute, "Sir, not I,"  
 The cloudy messenger turns me his back,  
 And hums; as who should say, "You'll rue the time  
 That clogs me with this answer."

- Len.* And that well might  
 Advise him to a caution, to hold what distance  
 445 His wisdom can provide. Some holy angel  
 Fly to the court of England, and unfold  
 His message ere he come; that a swift blessing  
 May soon return to this our suffering country  
 Under a hand accursed!

*Lord.* I'll send my prayers with him!  
 [Exeunt.]

## ACT IV.

SCENE I.—*A dark Cave. In the middle, a Caldron boiling. Thunder.*

*Enter the three Witches.*

- 1 *Witch.* Thrice the brinded cat hath mew'd.  
2 *Witch.* Thrice ; and once the hedge-pig whined.  
3 *Witch.* Harpier cries :—'T is time, 't is time.  
1 *Witch.* Round about the caldron go ;  
5 In the poison'd entrails throw :—  
Toad, that under cold stone,  
Days and nights hast thirty-one  
Swelter'd venom sleeping got,  
Boil thou first i' the charmed pot !  
10 *All.* Double, double, toil and trouble ;  
Fire, burn ; and, caldron, bubble.  
2 *Witch.* Fillet of a fenny snake,  
In the caldron boil and bake :  
Eye of newt, and toe of frog,  
15 Wool of bat, and tongue of dog,  
Adder's fork, and blind-worm's sting,  
Lizard's leg, and owlet's wing,  
For a charm of powerful trouble ;  
Like a hell-broth boil and bubble.  
20 *All.* Double, double, toil and trouble ;  
Fire, burn ; and, caldron, bubble.  
3 *Witch.* Scale of dragon, tooth of wolf ;  
Witches' mummy ; maw, and gulf,  
Of the ravin'd salt-sea shark ;  
25 Root of hemlock, digg'd i' the dark ;  
Liver of blaspheming Jew ;  
Gall of goat, and slips of yew,  
Sliver'd in the moon's eclipse ;  
Nose of Turk, and Tartar's lips ;  
30 Make the gruel thick and slab ;  
Add thereto a tiger's chaudron,

For the ingredients of our caldron.

*All.* Double, double, toil and trouble;

Fire, burn; and, caldron, bubble.

- 35 2 *Witch.* Cool it with a baboon's blood,  
Then the charm is firm and good.

*Enter HECATE, to the other three Witches.*

*Hec.* O, well done! I commend your pains;

And every one shall share i' the gains,

And now about the caldron sing,

- 40 Like elves and fairies in a ring,  
Enchanting all that you put in.

[*Music and a Song, 'Black spirits,' etc.*

2 *Witch.* By the pricking of my thumbs,  
Something wicked this way comes:—  
Open, locks, whoever knocks.

*Enter MACBETH.*

- 45 *Macb.* How now, you secret, black, and midnight hags!  
What is't you do?

*All.* A deed without a name.

*Macb.* I conjure you, by that which you profess

(Howe'er you come to know it), answer me:

Though you untie the winds, and let them fight

- 50 Against the churches; though the yesty waves  
Confound and swallow navigation up;

Though bladed corn be lodged, and trees blown down;

Though castles topple on their warders' heads;

Though palaces and pyramids do slope

- 55 Their heads to their foundations; though the treasure  
Of nature's germins tumble all together,  
Even till destruction sicken: answer me  
To what I ask you.

1 *Witch.* Speak.

2 *Witch.* Demand.

3 *Witch.* We 'll answer.

1 *Witch.* Say, if thou 'dst rather hear it from our  
mouths,

Or from our masters'?

- 60 *Macb.* Call them, let me see them.

1 *Witch.* Pour in sow's blood, that hath eaten  
Her nine farrow ; grease, that's sweaten  
From the murderer's gibbet, throw  
Into the flame.

*All.* Come, high, or low ;  
65 Thyself, and office, deftly show.

*Thunder.* An Apparition of an armed Head rises.

*Macb.* Tell me, thou unknown power,—

1 *Witch.* He knows thy thought ;  
Hear his speech, but say thou nought.

*App.* Macbeth ! Macbeth ! Macbeth ! beware Macduff ;  
Beware the thane of Fife.—Dismiss me :—Enough.

[*Descends.*

70 *Macb.* Whate'er thou art, for thy good caution, thanks ;  
Thou hast harped my fear aright :—But one word more :—

1 *Witch.* He will not be commanded : Here's another,  
More potent than the first.

*Thunder.* An Apparition of a bloody Child rises.

*App.* Macbeth ! Macbeth ! Macbeth !—

*Macb.* Had I three ears, I'd hear thee.

75 *App.* Be bloody, bold, and resolute ; laugh to scorn  
The power of man, for none of woman born  
Shall harm Macbeth.

[*Descends.*

*Macb.* Then live, Macduff : What need I fear of thee ?  
But yet I'll make assurance double sure,  
80 And take a bond of fate : thou shalt not live ;  
That I may tell pale-hearted fear it lies,  
And sleep in spite of thunder.—What is this,

*Thunder.* An Apparition of a Child crowned, with a Tree  
in his Hand, rises.

That rises like the issue of a king ;  
And wears upon his baby brow the round

85 And top of sovereignty ?

*All.* Listen, but speak not to't.

*App.* Be lion-mettled, proud ; and take no care  
Who chafes, who frets, or where conspirers are :  
Macbeth shall never vanquish'd be, until

Great Birnam wood to high Dunsinane hill.  
Shall come against him.

[*Descends.*

- 90 *Macb.* That will never be ;  
Who can impress the forest ; bid the tree  
Unfix his earth-bound root ? sweet bodements ! good !  
Rebellion's head, rise never, till the wood  
Of Birnam rise, and our high-placed Macbeth  
95 Shall live the lease of nature, pay his breath  
To time, and mortal custom.—Yet my heart  
Throbs to know one thing : Tell me (if your art  
Can tell so much), shall Banquo's issue ever  
Reign in this kingdom ?

*All.* Seek to know no more.

- 100 *Macb.* I will be satisfied : deny me this,  
And an eternal curse fall on you ! Let me know :—  
Why sinks that caldron ? and what noise is this ?

[*Hautboys.*

1 *Witch.* Show ! 2 *Witch.* Show ! 3 *Witch.* Show !

*All.* Show his eyes, and grieve his heart ;

- 105 Come like shadows, so depart.

*Eight Kings appear, and pass over the Stage in order ;  
the last with a Glass in his hand ; BANQUO following.*

*Macb.* Thou art too like the spirit of Banquo ; down !  
Thy crown doth sear mine eyeballs :—And thy hair,  
Thou other gold-bound brow, is like the first :—  
A third is like the former :—Filthy hags !

- 110 Why do you show me this ?—A fourth ?—Start, eyes !  
What ! will the line stretch out to the crack of doom ?  
Another yet ?—A seventh ?—I'll see no more :—  
And yet the eighth appears, who bears a glass  
Which shows me many more ; and some I see,  
115 That twofold balls and treble sceptres carry :  
Horrible sight !—Now, I see, 't is true ;  
For the blood-bolter'd Banquo smiles upon me,  
And points at them for his.—What, is this so ?

- 1 *Witch.* Ay, sir, all this is so :—But why  
120 Stands Macbeth thus amazedly ?  
Come, sisters, cheer we up his sprites,  
And show the best of our delights ;

- I'll charm the air to give a sound,  
While you perform your antic round :  
125 That this great king may kindly say,  
Our duties did his welcome pay.

[*Music. The Witches dance, and vanish.*]

*Macb.* Where are they? Gone?—Let this pernicious  
hour

Stand aye accursed in the calendar;—  
Come in, without there !

*Enter LENOX.*

- Len.* What's your grace's will?  
130 *Macb.* Saw you the weird sisters?  
*Len.* No, my lord.  
*Macb.* Came they not by you?  
*Len.* No, indeed, my lord.  
*Macb.* Infected be the air whereon they ride;  
And damn'd all those that trust them!—I did hear  
The galloping of horse: Who was't came by?  
135 *Len.* 'T is two or three, my lord, that bring you word,  
Macduff is fled to England.  
*Macb.* Fled to England?  
*Len.* Ay, my good lord.  
*Macb.* Time, thou anticipat'st my dread exploits:  
The flighty purpose never is o'ertook,  
140 Unless the deed go with it: From this moment,  
The very firstlings of my heart shall be  
The firstlings of my hand. And even now,  
To crown my thoughts with acts, be it thought and done:  
The castle of Macduff I will surprise;  
145 Seize upon Fife; give to the edge o' the sword  
His wife, his babes, and all unfortunate souls  
That trace him in his line. No boasting like a fool;  
This deed I'll do before this purpose cool:  
But no more sights!—Where are these gentlemen?  
150 Come, bring me where they are. [*Exeunt.*]

SCENE II.—Fife. *A Room in Macduff's Castle.*

*Enter LADY MACDUFF, her Son, and ROSSE.*

*Lady Macd.* What had he done, to make him fly the  
land?

*Rosse.* You must have patience, madam.

*L. Macd.*

He had none :

His flight was madness : When our actions do not,  
Our fears do make us traitors.

*Rosse.*

You know not

155 Whether it was his wisdom, or his fear.

*L. Macd.* Wisdom ! to leave his wife, to leave his  
babes,

His mansion, and his titles, in a place  
From whence himself does fly ? He loves us not ;  
He wants the natural touch : for the poor wren,

160 The most diminutive of birds, will fight,  
Her young ones in her nest, against the owl.  
All is the fear, and nothing is the love ;  
As little is the wisdom, where the flight  
So runs against all reason.

*Rosse.*

My dearest coz,

165 I pray you, school yourself : But, for your husband,  
He is noble, wise, judicious, and best knows  
The fits o' the season. I dare not speak much further :  
But cruel are the times, when we are traitors,  
And do not know ourselves ; when we hold rumour  
170 From what we fear ; yet know not what we fear ;  
But float upon a wild and violent sea  
Each way, and move.—I take my leave of you :  
Shall not be long but I'll be here again :  
Things at the worst will cease, or else climb upward  
175 To what they were before.—My pretty cousin,  
Blessing upon you !

*L. Macd.* Father'd he is, and yet he's fatherless.

*Rosse.* I am so much a fool, should I stay longer,  
It would be my disgrace, and your discomfort :

I take my leave at once.

[*Exit Rosse.*]

*L. Macd.*

Sirrah, your father's dead ;

180 And what will you do now ? How will you live ?

*Son.* As birds do, mother.

*L. Macd.*

What, with worms and flies ?

*Son.* With what I get, I mean ; and so do they.

*L. Macd.* Poor bird ! thou 'dst never fear the net, nor  
lime,



The pit-fall, nor the gin.

185 *Son.* Why should I, mother? Poor birds they are not set for.

My father is not dead, for all your saying.

*L. Macd.* Yes, he is dead; how wilt thou do for a father?

*Son.* Nay, how will you do for a husband?

*L. Macd.* Why, I can buy me twenty at any market.

190 *Son.* Then you'll buy 'em to sell again.

*L. Macd.* Thou speak'st with all thy wit; and yet, i' faith,

With wit enough for thee.

*Son.* Was my father a traitor, mother?

*L. Macd.* Ay, that he was.

195 *Son.* What is a traitor?

*L. Macd.* Why, one that swears and lies.

*Son.* And be all traitors that do so?

*L. Macd.* Every one that does so is a traitor, and must be hanged.

*Son.* And must they all be hanged that swear and lie?

200 *L. Macd.* Every one.

*Son.* Who must hang them?

*L. Macd.* Why, the honest men.

*Son.* Then the liars and swearers are fools: for there are liars and swearers enough to beat the honest men, and hang up them.

205 *L. Macd.* Now God help thee, poor monkey! But how wilt thou do for a father?

*Son.* If he were dead, you'd weep for him: if you would not, it were a good sign that I should quickly have a new father.

210 *L. Macd.* Poor prattler! how thou talkest!

*Enter a Messenger.*

*Mess.* Bless you, fair dame! I am not to you known, Though in your state of honour I am perfect.

I doubt, some danger does approach you nearly:

If you will take a homely man's advice,

215 Be not found here; hence, with your little ones.

To fright you thus, methinks, I am too savage;

To do worse to you were fell cruelty,  
Which is too nigh your person. Heaven preserve you !  
I dare abide no longer. [Exit.

- L. Macd.* Whither should I fly ?  
220 I have done no harm. But I remember now  
I am in this earthly world ; where, to do harm,  
Is often laudable ; to do good, sometime  
Accounted dangerous folly : why then, alas !  
Do I put up that womanly defence,  
225 To say, I have done no harm ?—What are these faces ?

*Enter Murderers.*

*Mur.* Where is your husband ?

*L. Macd.* I hope, in no place so unsanctified  
Where such as thou mayst find him.

*Mur.* He 's a traitor.

*Son.* Thou liest, thou shag-hair'd villain.

- Mur.* What, you egg ! [Stabbing him.  
230 Young fry of treachery !

*Son.* He has kill'd me, mother :  
Run away, I pray you. [Dies.  
[Exit LADY MACDUFF, crying " Murder," and  
pursued by the Murderers.

SCENE III.—England. Before the King's Palace.

*Enter MALCOLM and MACDUFF.*

*Mal.* Let us seek out some desolate shade, and there  
Weep our sad bosoms empty.

- Macd.* Let us rather,  
Hold fast the mortal sword ; and, like good men,  
235 Bestride our down-fall'n birthdom : each new morn,  
New widows howl ; new orphans cry ; new sorrows  
Strike heaven on the face, that it resounds  
As if it felt with Scotland, and yell'd out  
Like syllable of dolour.

- Mal.* What I believe, I'll wail ;  
240 What know, believe ; and what I can redress,  
As I shall find the time to friend, I will.  
What you have spoke, it may be so, perchance.

This tyrant, whose sole name blisters our tongues,  
 Was once thought honest: you have loved him well;  
 245 He hath not touch'd you yet. I am young, but some-  
   thing

You may deserve of him through me; and wisdom  
 To offer up a weak, poor, innocent lamb  
 To appease an angry God.

*Macd.* I am not treacherous.

*Mal.*

But Macbeth is.

250 A good and virtuous nature may recoil  
 In an imperial charge. But I shall crave your pardon;  
 That which you are my thoughts cannot transpose:  
 Angels are bright still, though the brightest fell:  
 Though all things foul would wear the brows of grace,  
 Yet grace must still look so.

255 *Macd.* I have lost my hopes.

*Mal.* Perchance even there where I did find my  
   doubts.

Why in that rawness left you wife and child  
 (Those precious motives, those strong knots of love),  
 Without leave-taking?—I pray you,  
 260 Let not my jealousies be your dishonours,  
 But mine own safeties:—You may be rightly just,  
 Whatever I shall think.

*Macd.*

Bleed, bleed, poor country!

Great tyranny, lay thou thy basis sure,  
 For goodness dare not check thee! wear thou thy wrongs.  
 265 Thy title is affeer'd.—Fare thee well, lord:  
 I would not be the villain that thou think'st  
 For the whole space that's in the tyrant's grasp,  
 And the rich East to boot.

*Mal.*

Be not offended;

I speak not as in absolute fear of you.

270 I think our country sinks beneath the yoke;  
 It weeps, it bleeds: and each new day a gash  
 Is added to her wounds: I think, withal,  
 There would be hands uplifted in my right;  
 And here, from gracious England, have I offer  
 275 Of goodly thousands: but, for all this,  
 When I shall tread upon the tyrant's head,

Or wear it on my sword, yet my poor country  
 Shall have more vices than it had before ;  
 More suffer, and more sundry ways than ever,  
 280 By him that shall succeed.

*Macd.* What should he be ?

*Mal.* It is myself I mean : in whom I know  
 All the particulars of vice so grafted,  
 That, when they shall be open'd, black Macbeth  
 Will seem as pure as snow ; and the poor state  
 285 Esteem him as a lamb, being compared  
 With my confineless harms.

*Macd.* Not in the legions  
 Of horrid hell, can come a devil more damn'd  
 In evils, to top Macbeth.

*Mal.* I grant him bloody,  
 Luxurious, avaricious, false, deceitful,  
 290 Sudden, malicious, smacking of every sin  
 That has a name : But there's no bottom, none,  
 In my voluptuousness : . . . and my desire  
 All continent impediments would o'erbear,  
 That did oppose my will : Better Macbeth,  
 Than such a one to reign.

295 *Macd.* Boundless intemperance  
 In nature is a tyranny ; it hath been  
 The untimely emptying of the happy throne,  
 And fall of many kings. But fear not yet  
 To take upon you what is yours ; you may  
 300 Convey your pleasures in a spacious plenty,  
 And yet seem cold, the time you may so hoodwink.

*Mal.* With this there grows,  
 In my most ill-composed affection, such  
 A stanchless avarice, that, were I king,  
 305 I should cut off the nobles for their lands ;  
 Desire his jewels, and this other's house :  
 And my more-having would be as a sauce  
 To make me hunger more ; that I should forge  
 Quarrels unjust against the good and loyal,  
 Destroying them for wealth.

310 *Macd.* This avarice

Sticks deeper ; grows with more pernicious root  
Than summer-seeming lust ; and it hath been  
The sword of our slain kings : yet do not fear ;  
Scotland hath foysons to fill up your will,  
315 Of your mere own : all these are portable,  
With other graces weigh'd.

*Mal.* But I have none : the king-becoming graces,  
As justice, verity, temperance, stableness,  
Bounty, persèverance, mercy, lowliness,  
320 Devotion, patience, courage, fortitude,  
I have no relish of them ; but abound  
In the division of each several crime,  
Acting it many ways. Nay, had I power, I should  
Pour the sweet milk of concord into hell,  
325 Uproar the universal peace, confound  
All unity on earth.

*Macd.* O Scotland ! Scotland !

*Mal.* If such a one be fit to govern, speak :  
I am as I have spoken.

*Macd.* Fit to govern !  
No, not to live.—O nation miserable,  
330 With an untitled tyrant bloody-scepter'd,  
When shalt thou see thy wholesome days again ?  
Since that the truest issue of thy throne  
By his own interdiction stands accursed,  
And does blaspheme his breed ?—Thy royal father  
335 Was a most sainted king : the queen that bore thee,  
Oft'ner upon her knees than on her feet,  
Died every day she lived. Fare thee well !  
These evils thou repeat'st upon thyself  
Have banish'd me from Scotland.—O, my breast,  
Thy hope ends here !

340 *Mal.* Macduff, this noble passion,  
Child of integrity, hath from my soul  
Wiped the black scruples, reconciled my thoughts  
To thy good truth and honour. Devilish Macbeth  
By many of these trains hath sought to win me  
345 Into his power ; and modest wisdom plucks me  
From over-credulous haste : but God above  
Deal between thee and me ! for even now

- I put myself to thy direction, and  
Unspeak mine own detraction ; here abjure  
350 The taints and blames I laid upon myself,  
For strangers to my nature. I am yet  
Unknown to woman ; never was forsworn ;  
Scarcely have coveted what was mine own ;  
At no time broke my faith ; would not betray  
355 The devil to his fellow ; and delight  
No less in truth than life : my first false speaking  
Was this upon myself : what I am truly,  
Is thine, and my poor country's, to command :  
Whither, indeed, before thy here-approach,  
360 Old Siward, with ten thousand warlike men,  
All ready at a point, was setting forth :  
Now, we'll together ; and the chance of goodness  
Be like our warranted quarrel ! Why are you silent ?  
*Macd.* Such welcome and unwelcome things at once,  
365 'T is hard to reconcile.  
*Mal.* Well ; more anon.—

*Enter a Doctor.*

Comes the king forth, I pray you ?

- Doct.* Ay, sir : there are a crew of wretched souls  
That stay his cure : their malady convinces  
The great assay of art ; but, at his touch,  
870 Such sanctity hath heaven given his hand,  
They presently amend.  
*Mal.* I thank you, doctor.

[*Exit Doctor.*

*Macd.* What's the disease he means ?

- Mal.* 'T is call'd the evil ;  
A most miraculous work in this good king :  
Which often, since my here-remain in England,  
375 I have seen him do. How he solicits heaven,  
Himself best knows : but strangely-visited people,  
All swoln and ulcerous, pitiful to the eye,  
The mere despair of surgery, he cures ;  
Hanging a golden stamp about their necks,  
380 Put on with holy prayers : and 't is spoken,  
To the succeeding royalty he leaves

The healing benediction. With this strange virtue,  
 He hath a heavenly gift of prophecy;  
 And sundry blessings hang about his throne,  
 385 That speak him full of grace.

*Macd.* See, who comes here?

*Mal.* My countryman; but yet I know him not.

*Enter ROSSE.*

*Macd.* My ever-gentle cousin, welcome hither.

*Mal.* I know him now: good God, betimes remove  
 The means that make us strangers!

*Rosse.* Sir, Amen.

390 *Macd.* Stands Scotland where it did?

*Rosse.* Alas, poor country;

Almost afraid to know itself! It cannot  
 Be call'd our mother, but our grave: where nothing,  
 But who knows nothing, is once seen to smile;  
 Where sighs, and groans, and shrieks that rent the air,

395 Are made, not mark'd; where violent sorrow seems  
 A modern ecstasy; the dead man's knell  
 Is there scarce ask'd, for who; and good men's lives  
 Expire before the flowers in their caps,  
 Dying or ere they sicken.

*Macd.* O, relation

400 Too nice, and yet too true!

*Mal.* What's the newest grief?

*Rosse.* That of an hour's age doth hiss the speaker;  
 Each minute teems a new one.

*Macd.* How does my wife?

*Rosse.* Why, well.

*Macd.* And all my children?

*Rosse.* Well too.

*Macd.* The tyrant has not batter'd at their peace?

405 *Rosse.* No; they were well at peace, when I did leave  
 them.

*Macd.* Be not a niggard of your speech: how goes it?

*Rosse.* When I came hither to transport the tidings,  
 Which I have heavily borne, there ran a rumour  
 Of many worthy fellows that were out;

410 Which was to my belief witness'd the rather,

For that I saw the tyrant's power a-foot :  
 Now is the time of help ; your eye in Scotland  
 Would create soldiers, make our women fight,  
 To doff their dire distresses.

*Mal.* Be't their comfort,  
 415 We are coming thither : gracious England hath  
 Lent us good Siward, and ten thousand men ;  
 An older and a better soldier, none  
 That Christendom gives out.

*Rosse.* 'Would I could answer  
 This comfort with the like ! But I have words  
 420 That would be howl'd out in the desert air,  
 Where hearing should not latch them.

*Macd.* What concern they ?  
 The general cause ? or is it a fee-grief,  
 Due to some single breast ?

*Rosse.* No mind that's honest  
 But in it shares some woe ; though the main part  
 Pertains to you alone.

425 *Macd.* If it be mine,  
 Keep it not from me, quickly let me have it.

*Rosse.* Let not your ears despise my tongue for ever,  
 Which shall possess them with the heaviest sound,  
 That ever yet they heard.

*Macd.* Hum ! I guess at it.  
 430 *Rosse.* Your castle is surprised ; your wife, and babes,  
 Savagely slaughter'd : to relate the manner,  
 Were, on the quarry of these murder'd deer,  
 To add the death of you.

*Mal.* Merciful heaven !—  
 What, man ! ne'er pull your hat upon your brows ;  
 435 Give sorrow words : the grief that does not speak  
 Whispers the o'erfraught heart, and bids it break.

*Macd.* My children too ?  
*Rosse.* Wife, children, servants,  
 All that could be found.

*Macd.* And I must be from thence !  
 My wife kill'd too ?

*Rosse.* I have said.  
 440 *Mal.* Be comforted :



Let's make us med'cines of our great revenge,  
To cure this deadly grief.

*Macd.* He has no children.—All my pretty ones?

Did you say, all?—O, hell-kite!—All?

445 What, all my pretty chickens and their dam,  
At one fell swoop?

*Mal.* Dispute it like a man.

*Macd.* I shall do so ;

But I must also feel it as a man :

I cannot but remember such things were,

450 That were most precious to me.—Did heaven look on,  
And would not take their part? Sinful Macduff,  
They were all struck for thee! naught that I am!  
Not for their own demerits, but for mine,

Fell slaughter on their souls: Heaven rest them now!

455 *Mal.* Be this the whetstone of your sword: let grief,  
Convert to anger, blunt not the heart, enrage it.

*Macd.* O, I could play the woman with mine eyes,  
And braggart with my tongue!—But, gentle heavens,  
Cut short all intermission; front to front,

460 Bring thou this fiend of Scotland, and myself;  
Within my sword's length set him; if he 'scape,  
Heaven forgive him too!

*Mal.* This tune goes manly.

Come, go we to the king; our power is ready;  
Our lack is nothing but our leave: Macbeth

465 Is ripe for shaking, and the powers above  
Put on their instruments. Receive what cheer you may;  
The night is long that never finds the day. [Exeunt.]

## ACT V.

SCENE I.—Dunsinane. *A Room in the Castle.*

*Enter a Doctor of Physic, and a Waiting Gentlewoman.*

*Doct.* I have two nights watched with you, but can  
perceive no truth in your report. When was it she last  
walked?

*Gent.* Since his majesty went into the field, I have  
5 seen her rise from her bed, throw her nightgown upon  
her, unlock her closet, take forth paper, fold it, write  
upon 't, read it, afterwards seal it, and again return to  
bed; yet all this while in a most fast sleep.

*Doct.* A great perturbation in nature,—to receive at  
10 once the benefit of sleep, and do the effects of watching!  
—In this slumbery agitation, besides her walking and  
other actual performances, what, at any time, have you  
heard her say?

*Gent.* That, sir, which I will not report after her.

15 *Doct.* You may, to me; and 't is most meet you  
should.

*Gent.* Neither to you nor any one; having no wit-  
ness to confirm my speech.—Lo you, here she comes!

*Enter LADY MACBETH, with a taper.*

This is her very guise; and,  
20 upon my life, fast asleep. Observe her: stand close.

*Doct.* How came she by that light?

*Gent.* Why, it stood by her: she has light by her con-  
tinually; 't is her command.

*Doct.* You see, her eyes are open.

25 *Gent.* Ay, but their sense is shut.

*Doct.* What is it she does now? Look how she rubs  
her hands.

*Gent.* It is an accustomed action with her, to seem  
thus washing her hands. I have known her continue in  
30 this a quarter of an hour.

*Lady M.* Yet here 's a spot.

*Doct.* Hark! she speaks: I will set down what comes  
from her, to satisfy my remembrance the more strongly.

*Lady M.* Out, damned spot! out, I say!—One;  
35 two: Why, then 't is time to do 't:—Hell is murky!  
—Fie, my lord, fie! a soldier, and afeard? What need  
we fear who knows it, when none can call our power to  
account?—Yet who would have thought the old man to  
have had so much blood in him?

40 *Doct.* Do you mark that?

*Lady M.* The thane of Fife had a wife; where is she

now?—What, will these hands ne'er be clean?—No more o' that, my lord, no more o' that: you mar all with this starting.

45 *Doct.* Go to, go to; you have known what you should not.

*Gent.* She has spoke what she should not, I am sure of that: Heaven knows what she has known.

*Lady M.* Here 's the smell of the blood still: all the  
50 perfumes of Arabia will not sweeten this little hand.  
Oh! oh! oh!

*Doct.* What a sigh is there! The heart is sorely charged.

*Gent.* I would not have such a heart in my bosom, for  
55 the dignity of the whole body.

*Doct.* Well, well, well,—

*Gent.* Pray God it be, sir.

*Doct.* This disease is beyond my practice: yet I have  
known those which have walked in their sleep who have  
60 died holily in their beds.

*Lady M.* Wash your hands, put on your night-gown; look not so pale:—I tell you yet again, Banquo's buried; he cannot come out on 's grave.

*Doct.* Even so?

65 *Lady M.* To bed, to bed; there 's knocking at the gate. Come, come, come, come, give me your hand. What's done cannot be undone; To bed, to bed, to bed.  
[Exit LADY MACBETH.]

*Doct.* Will she go now to bed?

*Gent.* Directly.

70 *Doct.* Foul whisperings are abroad: unnatural deeds  
Do breed unnatural troubles: infected minds  
To their deaf pillows will discharge their secrets.  
More needs she the divine than the physician.—  
God, God forgive us all! Look after her;  
75 Remove from her the means of all annoyance,  
And still keep eyes upon her:—so, good-night:  
My mind she has mated, and amazed my sight:  
I think, but dare not speak.

*Gent.*

Good-night, good doctor.

[Exeunt.]

SCENE II.—*The Country near Dunsinane.*

*Enter, with drum and colours, MENTEITH, CAITHNESS, ANGUS, LENOX, and Soldiers.*

*Ment.* The English power is near, led on by Malcolm,  
80 His uncle Siward, and the good Macduff.  
Revenge burn in them ; for their dear causes  
Would, to the bleeding and the grim alarm,  
Excite the mortified man.

*Ang.* Near Birnam wood  
Shall we well meet them ; that way are they coming.  
85 *Cath.* Who knows if Donalbain be with his brother ?

*Len.* For certain, sir, he is not : I have a file  
Of all the gentry : there is Siward's son,  
And many unrough youths, that even now  
Protest their first of manhood.

*Ment.* What does the tyrant ?  
90 *Cath.* Great Dunsinane he strongly fortifies :  
Some say he 's mad ; others, that lesser hate him,  
Do call it valiant fury : but, for certain,  
He cannot buckle his distemper'd cause  
Within the belt of rule.

*Ang.* Now does he feel  
95 His secret murders sticking on his hands ;  
Now minutely revolts upbraid his faith-breach ;  
Those he commands move only in command,  
Nothing in love : now does he feel his title  
Hang loose about him, like a giant's robe  
100 Upon a dwarfish thief.

*Ment.* Who, then, shall blame  
His pester'd senses to recoil and start,  
When all that is within him does condemn  
Itself for being there ?

*Cath.* Well, march we on,  
To give obedience where 't is truly ow'd :  
105 Meet we the medicine of the sickly weal ;  
And with him pour we, in our country's purge,  
Each drop of us.

*Len.* Or so much as it needs,

To dew the sovereign flower, and drown the weeds.  
Make we our march towards Birnam.

[*Exeunt, marching.*]

SCENE III.—Dunsinane. *A Room in the Castle.*

*Enter MACBETH, Doctor, and Attendants.*

- 110 *Macb.* Bring me no more reports; let them fly all;  
Till Birnam wood remove to Dunsinane,  
I cannot taint with fear. What's the boy Malcolm?  
Was he not born of woman? The spirits that know  
All mortal consequences have pronounced me thus:  
115 "Fear not, Macbeth; no man that's born of woman  
Shall e'er have power upon thee." Then fly, false thanes,  
And mingle with the English epicures:  
The mind I sway by, and the heart I bear,  
Shall never sag with doubt, nor shake with fear.

*Enter a Servant.*

- 120 The devil damn thee black, thou cream-faced loon;  
Where gott'st thou that goose look?  
*Serv.* There is ten thousand—  
*Macb.* Geese, villain?  
*Serv.* Soldiers, sir.  
*Macb.* Go prick thy face, and over-red thy fear,  
Thou lily-liver'd boy. What soldiers, patch!  
125 Death of thy soul! those linen cheeks of thine  
Are counsellors to fear. What soldiers, whey-face?  
*Serv.* The English force, so please you.  
*Macb.* Take thy face hence.— [*Exit. Servant.*]  
Seyton!—I am sick at heart,  
When I behold—Seyton, I say!—This push  
130 Will chair me ever, or dis-seat me now.  
I have lived long enough: my way of life  
Is fallen into the sear, the yellow leaf:  
And that which should accompany old age,  
As honour, love, obedience, troops of friends,  
135 I must not look to have; but, in their stead,

Curses not loud but deep, mouth-honour, breath,  
Which the poor heart would fain deny, and dare not.  
Seyton !—

*Enter SEYTON.*

*Sey.* What's your gracious pleasure ?

*Macb.* What news more ?

140 *Sey.* All is confirm'd, my lord, which was reported.

*Macb.* I'll fight, till from my bones my flesh be hack'd.  
Give me my armour.

*Sey.* 'T is not needed yet.

*Macb.* I'll put it on.—

Send out more horses, skir the country round ;

145 Hang those that talk of fear.—Give me mine armour.—

How does your patient, doctor ?

*Doct.* Not so sick, my lord,  
As she is troubled with thick-coming fancies,  
That keep her from her rest.

*Macb.* Cure her of that :  
Canst thou not minister to a mind diseased ;

150 Pluck from the memory a rooted sorrow ;  
Raze out the written troubles of the brain ;  
And, with some sweet oblivious antidote,  
Cleanse the stuff'd bosom of that perilous stuff  
Which weighs upon the heart ?

*Doct.* Therein the patient

155 Must minister to himself.

*Macb.* Throw physic to the dogs, I'll none of it.—  
Come, put mine armour on ; give me my staff :—  
Seyton, send out.—Doctor, the thanes fly from me.—  
Come, sir, despatch.—If thou couldst, doctor, cast

160 The water of my land, find her disease,  
And purge it to a sound and pristine health,  
I would applaud thee to the very echo,  
That should applaud again.—Pull 't off, I say.—  
What rhubarb, senna, or what purgative drug,

165 Would scour these English hence ? Hear'st thou of them ?

*Doct.* Ay, my good lord ; your royal preparation  
Makes us hear something.

*Macb.* Bring it after me.—

- I will not be afraid of death and bane,  
 Till Birnam forest come to Dunsinane. [Exit.  
 170 *Doct.* Were I from Dunsinane away and clear,  
 Profit again should hardly draw me here. [Exit.

SCENE IV.—Country near Dunsinane. A Wood in view.

*Enter, with drum and colours, MALCOLM, old SIWARD and his SON, MACDUFF, MENTEITH, CAITHNESS, ANGUS, LENOX, ROSSE, and Soldiers, marching.*

*Mal.* Cousins, I hope the days are near at hand,  
 That chambers will be safe.

*Ment.* We doubt it nothing.

*Siw.* What wood is this before us?

*Ment.* The wood of Birnam.

- 175 *Mal.* Let every soldier hew him down a bough,  
 And bear 't before him; thereby shall we shadow  
 The numbers of our host, and make discovery  
 Err in report of us.

*Soldiers.* It shall be done.

- Siw.* We learn no other but the confident tyrant  
 180 Keeps still in Dunsinane, and will endure  
 Our setting down before 't.

*Mal.* 'Tis his main hope:  
 For where there is advantage to be given,  
 Both more and less have given him the revolt;  
 And none serve with him but constrained things,  
 Whose hearts are absent too.

- 185 *Macd.* Let our just censures  
 Attend the true event, and put we on  
 Industrious soldiership.

- Siw.* The time approaches,  
 That will with due decision make us know  
 What we shall say we have, and what we owe.  
 190 Thoughts speculative their unsure hopes relate;  
 But certain issue strokes must arbitrate:  
 Towards which advance the war. [Exeunt, marching

SCENE V.—DUNDEEN. *Within the Castle.*

*Enter, with drums and colours, MACBETH, SEYTON, and Soldiers.*

*Macb.* Hang out our banners on the outward walls ;  
The cry is still, " They come : " our castle's strength  
195 Will laugh a siege to scorn : here let them lie  
Till famine and the ague eat them up :  
Were they not ' forced with those that should be ours,  
We might have met them dareful, beard to beard,  
And beat them backward home. [*A cry within, of women.*  
What is that noise ?

200 *Sey.* It is the cry of women, my good lord. [*Exit.*

*Macb.* I have almost forgot the taste of fears :  
The time has been, my senses would have cool'd  
To hear a night-shriek ; and my fell of hair  
Would at a dismal treatise rouse and stir  
205 As life were in 't : I have supp'd full with horrors ;  
Direness, familiar to my slaughterous thoughts,  
Cannot once start me.— [*Re-enter SEYTON.*

Wherefore was that cry ?

*Sey.* The queen, my lord, is dead.

*Macb.* She should have died hereafter ;  
210 There would have been a time for such a word.—  
To-morrow, and to-morrow, and to-morrow,  
Creeps in this petty pace from day to day,  
To the last syllable of recorded time ;  
And all our yesterdays have lighted fools  
215 The way to dusty death. Out, out, brief candle !  
Life's but a walking shadow ; a poor player,  
That struts and frets his hour upon the stage,  
And then is heard no more : it is a tale  
Told by an idiot, full of sound and fury,  
220 Signifying nothing.—

*Enter a Messenger.*

Thou com'st to use thy tongue ; thy story, quickly.

*Mess.* Gracious my lord,  
I should report that which I say I saw,



But know not how to do it.

*Macb.* Well, say, sir.

225 *Mess.* As I did stand my watch upon the hill,  
I look'd toward Birnam, and anon, methought,  
The wood began to move.

*Macb.* Liar and slave!

*Mess.* Let me endure your wrath, if 't be not so:  
Within this three mile may you see it coming;  
I say, a moving grove.

230 *Macb.* If thou speak'st false,  
Upon the next tree shalt thou hang alive,  
Till famine cling thee: if thy speech be sooth,  
I care not if thou dost for me as much.—  
I pull in resolution; and begin

235 To doubt the equivocation of the fiend,  
That lies like truth: "Fear not, till Birnam wood  
Do come to Dunsinane;"—and now a wood  
Comes toward Dunsinane.—Arm, arm, and out!—  
If this which he avouches does appear,

240 There is nor flying hence, nor tarrying here.  
I 'gin to be a-weary of the sun,  
And wish the estate o' the world were now undone.—  
Ring the alarum-bell:—Blow wind! come wrack!  
At least we'll die with harness on our back. [*Exeunt.*]

SCENE VI.—*The same. A Plain before the Castle.*

*Enter, with drums and colours, MALCOLM, old SIWARD,  
MACDUFF, etc., and their Army, with boughs.*

245 *Mal.* Now, near enough; your leavy screens throw  
down,

And show like those you are.—You, worthy uncle,  
Shall, with my cousin, your right-noble son,  
Lead our first battle: worthy Macduff and we  
Shall take upon 's what else remains to do,  
According to our order.

250 *Siw.* Fare you well.—  
Do we but find the tyrant's power to-night,  
Let us be beaten if we cannot fight.

*Macd.* Make all our trumpets speak ; give them all  
breath,  
Those clamorous harbingers of blood and death.  
[*Exeunt.*

SCENE VII.—*The same. Another part of the Plain.*

*Enter MACBETH.*

255 *Macb.* They have tied me to a stake ; I cannot fly,  
But, bear-like, I must fight the course.—What's he  
That was not born of woman ? Such a one  
Am I to fear, or none.

*Enter Young SIWARD.*

*Yo. Siw.* What is thy name ?

*Macb.* Thou 'lt be afraid to hear it.

260 *Yo. Siw.* No ; though thou call'st thyself a hotter  
name  
Than any is in hell.

*Macb.* My name's Macbeth.

*Yo. Siw.* The devil himself could not pronounce a  
title  
More hateful to mine ear.

*Macb.* No, nor more fearful.

*Yo. Siw.* Thou liest, abhorred tyrant ; with my sword  
I'll prove the lie thou speak'st.

[*They fight, and young SIWARD is slain.*

265 *Macb.* Thou wast born of woman.—  
But swords I smile at, weapons laugh to scorn,  
Brandish'd by man that's of a woman born. [Exit.

*Alarums. Enter MACDUFF.*

*Macd.* That way the noise is :—Tyrant, show thy face :  
If thou be'st slain, and with no stroke of mine,  
270 My wife and children's ghosts will haunt me still.  
I cannot strike at wretched kernes, whose arms  
Are hired to bear their staves ; either thou, Macbeth,  
Or else my sword, with an unbatter'd edge,  
I sheathe again undeeded. There thou shouldst be ;

- 275 By this great clatter, one of greatest note  
 Seems bruited. Let me find him, fortune !  
 And more I beg not. [Exit. Alarum.

*Enter MALCOLM and old SIWARD.*

- Siw.* This way, my lord ;—the castle 's gently render'd :  
 The tyrant's people on both sides do fight ;  
 280 The noble thanes do bravely in the war ;  
 The day almost itself professes yours,  
 And little is to do.

*Mal.* We have met with foes  
 That strike beside us.

*Siw.* Enter, sir, the castle.  
 [Exeunt. Alarum.

*Re-enter MACBETH.*

- Macb.* Why should I play the Roman fool, and die  
 285 On mine own sword ? whiles I see lives, the gashes  
 Do better upon them.

*Re-enter MACDUFF.*

*Macd.* Turn, hell-hound, turn.

*Macb.* Of all men else I have avoided thee :  
 But get thee back, my soul is too much charged  
 With blood of thine already.

- Macd.* I have no words,  
 290 My voice is in my sword ; thou bloodier villain  
 Than terms can give thee out. [They fight.

- Macb.* Thou loosest labour :  
 As easy mayst thou the intrenchant air  
 With thy keen sword impress, as make me bleed :  
 Let fall thy blade on vulnerable crests ;  
 295 I bear a charmed life, which must not yield  
 To one of woman born.

*Macd.* Despair thy charm ;  
 And let the angel whom thou still hast served  
 Tell thee, Macduff was from his mother's womb  
 Untimely ripp'd.

- 300 *Macb.* Accurs'd be that tongue that tells me so,  
 For it hath cow'd my better part of man !

And be these juggling fiends no more believed,  
That palter with us in a double sense ;  
That keep the word of promise to our ear,  
305 And break it to our hope.—I'll not fight with thee.

*Macd.* Then yield thee, coward,  
And live to be the show and gaze o' the time.  
We'll have thee, as our rarer monsters are,  
Painted upon a pole ; and underwrit,  
" Here may you see the tyrant."

310 *Macb.* I will not yield,  
To kiss the ground before young Malcolm's feet,  
And to be baited with the rabble's curse.  
Though Birnam wood be come to Dunsinane,  
And thou opposed, being of no woman born,  
315 Yet I will try the last : Before my body  
I throw my warlike shield : lay on, Macduff ;  
And damn'd be him that first cries, " Hold, enough !"  
[*Exeunt fighting.*]

*Retreat. Flourish. Re-enter, with drum and colours,*  
MALCOLM, old SIWARD, ROSSE, LENOX, ANGUS, CAITH-  
NESS, MENTEITH, and Soldiers.

*Mal.* I would the friends we miss were safe arrived.

*Siv.* Some must go off ; and yet, by these I see,  
320 So great a day as this is cheaply bought.

*Mal.* Macduff is missing, and your noble son.

*Rosse.* Your son, my lord, has paid a soldier's debt :  
He only lived but till he was a man ;  
The which no sooner had his prowess confirm'd,  
325 In the unshrinking station where he fought,  
But like a man he died.

*Siv.* Then he is dead ?

*Rosse.* Ay, and brought off the field : your cause of  
sorrow  
Must not be measured by his worth, for then  
It hath no end.

*Siv.* Had he his hurts before ?

*Rosse.* Ay, on the front.

330 *Siv.* Why, then, God's soldier be he !

Had I as many sons as I have hairs,  
I would not wish them to a fairer death :  
And so his knell is knoll'd.

*Mal.* He's worth more sorrow,  
And that I'll spend for him.

*Siv.* He's worth no more ;  
335 They say, he parted well, and paid his score :  
And so, God be with him !—Here comes newer comfort.

*Re-enter MACDUFF, with MACBETH's head.*

*Macd.* Hail, king ! for so thou art : Behold, where  
stands

The usurper's cursèd head : the time is free :  
I see thee compass'd with thy kingdom's pearl,  
840 That speak my salutation in their minds ;  
Whose voices I desire aloud with mine,—  
Hail, king of Scotland !

*All.* Hail, king of Scotland ! [*Flourish.*]

*Mal.* We shall not spend a large expense of time,  
Before we reckon with your several loves,  
345 And make us even with you. My thanes and kinsmen,  
Henceforth be earls, the first that ever Scotland  
In such an honour named. What's more to do,  
Which would be planted newly with the time,—  
As calling home our exiled friends abroad :  
850 That fled the snares of watchful tyranny ;  
Producing forth the cruel ministers  
Of this dead butcher, and his fiend-like queen,  
Who, as 't is thought, by self and violent hands  
Took off her life ;—this, and what needful else  
855 That calls upon us, by the grace of Grace,  
We will perform in measure, time, and place :  
So thanks to all at once, and to each one,  
Whom we invite to see us crown'd at Scone.

[*Flourish.* *Exeunt.*]

# NOTES.

## ACT I.

1. *When*, in this line is an interrogative adverb. In lines 3 and 4, *when* is an adverbial conjunction, connecting the clauses it introduces with "we shall meet," understood.

9. *Anon* / is the answer of second Witch to the call of Paddock.

11. *Hover*, 1st pers. plur. imp. ; hover we = let us hover.

13. *As seemeth by his plight*, an att. cl. introduced by the rel. *as*, and qualifying the statement that "he can report."

16. *'Gainst my captivity*, i.e., against my being taken captive.

19. *As two spent swimmers*, scil. stand. A forcible simile: the two armies are so closely locked in combat, that they have not room to fight.

21. *To that*, scil. "degree" or "extent," adv. phr. to "do swarm."

24. *Of*, = with. Comp. F. *muni de*. The E. *of* was once as variously used as the F. *de* now is. In 1 Cor. x. 10, "destroyed of the destroyer," *of* = by.

24. *Kernes and gallowglasses*, Irish foot-soldiers. Both words are used by Holinshed, § 3. The kernes were armed with a short sword and target; the gallowglasses were partly clad in mail. Shakespeare uses *korne* contemptuously, i. 41; v. 271.

27. *That name*, referring to the epithet "brave."

28. *With his brandish'd steel*, adv. phr. of instrument, to "carv'd out." *Like valour's minion* is an adv. phr. of manner; i.e., as if he were the special favourite of Valour.

32. *And ne'er shook hands*, etc. The reading of the folio is, "*Which ne'er shook hands*;" but as that connects the clause with "slave" rather than with "*Macbeth*," the reading in the text is preferable. In either case, *ne'er . . . till* (33) is equivalent to *not . . . ere*. *Till* properly indicates merely the postponing of one action *till* another has been performed. Here, and elsewhere in Shakespeare, it signifies an indefinite postponement.

37. *As whence the sun*, etc. These lines must be thus construed:—"As shipwracking storms and direful thunders break (from the place) whence the sun 'gins his reflection; so discomfort swells from that spring whence comfort seem'd to come." The figure here is a Simile; rendered as a Metaphor it would be, "The sunshine and the storms of life often spring from the same source."

40. *No sooner . . . but*, the modern idiom is "no sooner than." The construction and analysis of the sentence may be thus indicated:—

A. Justice had compelled these skipping kernes, etc., no sooner,

a. (*adv. of comparison*) but the Norweyan lord, etc., began a fresh assault (soon).

42. *The Norweyan Lord*, Sweyn or Sueno, brother of Canute, king of England.—*Vide* Holinshed, §§ 6-9. It will be observed that, in the chronicle, the rebellion of Macdonwald terminating in his suicide, the first invasion of the Danes, which ended in the destruction of their fleet, and the second invasion of the Danes, which ended in the tombs of Inchcolm, are mentioned as *three* separate events. Shakespeare's purpose is better served by their being thrown into one, his genius giving them a new unity in harmony with the leading action of the plot.

48. *Overcharged with double cracks*; like "doubly redoubled" in the next line, is a Pleonasm.

50. *To bathe*; middle voice, scil. themselves. The meaning of the sentence, which is abruptly broken off by the soldier's faintness, is—"I cannot tell (what they meant), except (*i.e.*, unless) they meant to bathe in reeking wounds, or memorize another Golgotha." Calvary (*L. Calvus*, bald) which is a Latin translation of Golgotha, only occurs *once* in the English Bible (Luke xxiii. 33), and not *once* in the original. It has obviously been borrowed from the Latin Vulgate.

51. *Memorize another Golgotha*. Golgotha is the place where Christ was crucified, and means "the place of a skull." Here it must be taken in the general sense of a place of self-sacrifice, and to "memorize" it, is to make it memorable.

65. *Assisted by that most disloyal traitor*, etc.; another instance of Shakespeare's power of adaptation. The hint in Holinshed is a very slender one (§ 16). The particular act of treason is devised by Shakespeare so as to fit into the texture of his plot.

86. *Canodor*, also spelt *Calder*, but pronounced *Ca'der*, a parish in Scotland, co. Nairn and Inverness.

67. *Bellona's bridegroom*, Macbeth. Bellona was the Roman goddess of war.

67. *Lapp'd in proof*, lit. clad in armour. *Proof* may, however, here be taken in a moral signification, viz., irresistible firmness, or courage.

68. *Confronted him with self-comparisons*, matched every feat of bravery that he performed, by a feat as brave.

72. *That now*, so that now, subordinating the clause to "the victory fall on us."

74. *At Saint Colmes' inch*, now Inchcolm, a small island in the Firth of Forth, about two miles from the Fife coast. The island was named after St. Columba, to whom a monastery upon it was dedicated by Alexander III., about eighty years after the events here referred to. Comp. Hol. § 14.

79. *I'll see it done*. "It," direct object; "done," indirect object, after see; *i.e.*, I'll see that it is done.

80. *What he hath lost*, n. cl., object to "hath won."

86. *Aroint thee, witch*! so in *Lear*, iii. 4,—

"Aroint thee; witch; aroint thee."

87. *To Aleppo gone, master o' the Tiger*.—In “Hakluyt's Voyages” (1598), there are several letters and journals of a voyage made to Aleppo in the ship “Tiger,” of London, in 1583. Aleppo is in the north of Syria.

101. *Forbid*, pp. for forbidden, i.e., interdicted, with a curse upon him.

102. *Sev'n-nights*, weeks; also *se'enight* and *sennight*. Comp. *fort-night*, i.e., fourteen-night, two weeks.

118. *Forres*, a town in the north of Morayshire (Scotland), ten miles from Elgin, and about thirty from Inverness.

118. *What are these, et seq.* Comp. Hol. § 15.

127. *Glamis*, a parish in Forfarshire (Scotland).

134. *My noble partner you greet*, etc. Comp. Hol. § 16.

137. *If you can, . . . speak then to me*; a hypothetical sentence, having the apodosis in the imperative.

139. *Who neither beg, nor fear, your favours, nor your hate*, verbs and objects must be taken alternately: “who neither beg your favours, nor fear your hate.”

144. *Thou shalt 'get kings*. Comp. Hol.,—“Of thee there shall be borne which shall govern the Scottish kingdom,” etc., and the chronicle afterwards traces the line of the Stewarts from Banquo's son Fleance.

147. *You imperfect speakers*; speakers who leave their message half-told. It is not their speaking but their news that is imperfect.

154. *Or why upon*, etc., n. cl., object to “say.”

161. *The insane root*, root causing insanity; Henbane, a narcotic plant, the juice of which, botanists tell us, dilates the pupil of the eye.

160. *Macbeth*; the vocative, or nominative of address.

169. *His wonders and his praises do contend,*  
*Which should be thine, or his;*

i.e., There is a contest whether most wonder should be his, or praise thine;—a most felicitous compliment. The alternative form resembles that of lines 139, 140.

170. *Silenced with that*, adv. phr. to “he finds.” Struck dumb by that thought.

174. *Strange images of death*, n. phr. in apposition with “what thyself didst make.”

174. *As thick as hail came post with post*. The folio has a comma after death, and reads, “as thick as tale can post with post.” The objections to the latter reading and connexion are, (1) that the clause, in any case, must refer to the number and speed of the reports, not to the number of Macbeth's death-blows; and (2) that, with the latter reading, there is nothing for “and” to co-ordinate with “did bear.” The obvious meaning is, that the posts or couriers came thick as hail, and every one of them did bear Macbeth's praises.

180. *Pay*, inf. of purpose under the regimen of “sent.”

182. *In which addition*, i.e., title, a heraldic and legal term.

185. *Who was the thape*; this (like all relative clauses with the corre-



lative omitted) may be regarded as a n. cl., subject to "lives." It is really an att. cl. to "he," understood.

187. *Whether he was combined with those of Norway*, n. cl., object to "I know not;" means, I know not whether he *openly* joined the Norwegians, or *secretly* aided them. Analyse the whole passage thus:—

A. I know not

1a. (n. cl.) whether he was combined with those of Norway;

2a. (n. cl.) or he did line the rebel with hidden help and vantage;

3a. (n. cl.) or that he labour'd with both in his country's wrack.

B. But capital treasons, confess'd and proved, have overthrown him.

192. *Glamis and thane of Cawdor*, etc. Macbeth's speeches are partly soliloquy, partly conversational, throughout the rest of the scene. How admirably this reflects his mental agitation!

196. *No less*, here, is equivalent to "something greater."

196. *Trusted home*, adv. phr. of cause or condition to "might enkindle." If trusted home, i.e., if trusted thoroughly. Home is here an adv.

198. *Besides the thane of Cawdor*, i.e., in addition to the thaneship of Cawdor.

199. *To win us to our harm*, inf. of purpose, adv. to "tell." So also, *to betray us*, 201.

207. *If ill*, i.e., if it be ill, adv. of condition to "hath given." So also, *if good*, 210.

216. *Shakes so my single state of man*, etc., so overpowers my feeble human nature—so unmans me,—that all power of present action is paralysed by my fears.

217. *Nothing is but what is not*; i.e., the future alone (that which is not yet) is present to his thoughts.

220. *Without my stir*. Macbeth would evidently prefer that it should come about by "chance." We can trace in this hesitation and struggle what his wife stigmatized as the "milk of human kindness" in his nature. Compare Hol. § 17,— "He thought with himselfe that he must tarie a time, which should aduance him thereto (by the diuine providence) as it had come to pass in his former preferment."

220. *Come* is here the pp.; att. to "honours."

222. *Come what come may*, the first *come* is 3d pers. sing. imp.; the second *come* is the inf. = "let that come which may come."

230. *The interim having weighed it*. Abs. phr. = we having weighed it in the interim.

235. *They are not yet come*, like "are returned" in line 267. Intransitive verbs of motion in English are frequently conjugated with *are*, as well as with *have*. But the forms are not identical in meaning: *he has come* refers to the past act of arriving; *he is come* to the present state of being arrived. In the latter case, *come* is used adjectively.

253. *More is thy due*, n. cl., object to "say." Macbeth deserves not only "more than all can pay," but even more than *that*.

266. *Wanton*, an adj. att. to "joys."
268. *Know*, 2d pers. plur. imp.; *Sons*, *kinsmen*, etc. (267), are in the nom. of address. *We will establish*, n. cl., obj. of *know*.
271. *The Prince of Cumberland*. Comp. Hol. § 17.
271. *Which*, here an adj., att. to "honour," = and this.
274. *Inverness*, a royal burgh, capital of Inverness-shire, and of the Northern Highlands of Scotland, on the river Ness, nine miles from the Moray Firth.
284. *The eye wink at the hand*; i.e., Let the eye wink at the hand.
300. *And that*, scil. *And thou must do that*.
304. *Golden round*, golden circle, the crown. It may also refer, figuratively, to the completion of his career.
306. *Withal* is here a preposition governing *which*.—See Vocabulary.
307. *To say it*, adv. of cause to *art mad*, = Thou'rt mad since thou say'st it.
308. *Is not thy master with him?* = Thy master is, etc. The negative interrogation, when exclamatory, is equal to an affirmative proposition. So, an affirmative interrogation is equivalent to a negative proposition; as, "Am I my brother's keeper?" = I am *not*, etc.
311. *Had the speed of him*, outran him.
313. *Than would make up his message*, contr. for "Than that is (much) which would make up," etc. adv. cl. of comparison to "had more;" the last cl. "which would," etc., is att. to "is much."
321. *That no compunctious visitings*, etc., i.e., That no feeling of compunction may step in between my purpose and its accomplishment; adv. of purpose, to "stop."
337. *That morrow*, i.e., there never will be a morrow in which Duncan shall "go hence." *Morrow* is here used in the sense of morning generally, not specially of next morning.
339. *To beguile the time*, inf. of purpose, adv. to "look,"
348. *To alter favour*, to change the expression.
358. *Where they most breed*, etc.; analyse thus:—  
A. I have observed,  
a<sup>1</sup> (n. cl.) The air is delicate,  
a<sup>2</sup> (adv. cl.) Where they most breed and haunt.
360. *The love that follows us*, etc. The meaning is, "Your love is often troublesome to me, yet I thank you for it; if my love causes you trouble, you in like manner ought to thank me therefore."
364. *In every point twice done, and then done double*, adv. phr. of condition to "were poor and single business," = "If our service were multiplied indefinitely, it were poor and single business," etc.
369. *We rest your hermits*, i.e., you may count upon our prayers for you. *Hermits* here means beadmen, those engaged to pray for others.
371. *To be his purveyor*. The right of the crown to buy up, forcibly if

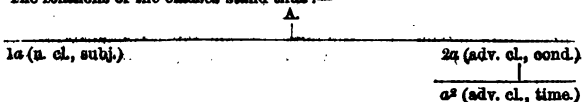
necessary, provisions for the use of the royal household, was called *purveyance*. The commissioners who performed this duty were called the king's *purveyors*. There is here, then, a delicate compliment to Macbeth. The king meant to be *his* purveyor.

377. *Still to return your own; i.e.,* As we hold everything from you, whatever we give you is but returning your own.

381. *If it were done, etc.* It has often been pointed out that the word *done* has a different meaning each time it is used in this passage. It may be thus paraphrased:—"If the *matter* were *all over* when the *deed* is *accomplished*, then it were well it were *gone through* quickly." The third it is a demonstrative particle, relating to the cl. "it were done quickly." The sentence may be thus analysed:—

		CON.	SUB.	PREDICATE.	OBJ.	ADVERBIAL.
Apodosis.	{ A.	..	It	were well	..	
	{ 1a	that	it	were done	..	quickly.
Protasis.	{ 2a	if	it	were done	..	
	{ a <sup>2</sup>	when	it	is done	..	..

The relations of the clauses stand thus:—



The sentence is both hypothetical and potential—clauses A and 1a together form the Apodosis, 2a and a<sup>2</sup> together form the Protasis. It has been suggested that a period should be placed after "well," and that the cl. "it were done quickly" should stand as apodosis to the following cl. "if the assassination," etc. The only objection to this emendation is that thereby the apodosis "we'd jump the life to come," is left without a protasis, unless, indeed, the optative "*that* but this blow might be," etc., is to be taken as also implying a condition.

385. *Be-all, end-all; "the final consummation."* The meaning of the whole passage, which its abruptness makes difficult of analysis, seems to be, that "if we could exhaust the consequences of the deed *here*, if we could get quit of the pricking of conscience *here*, then we might face the life to come fearlessly. But we still have judgment *here*, telling us that we but teach," etc.

396. *Who should . . . myself; who* is here 1st pers. relating to *I*, in "as I am his host."

405. *That tears shall drown the wind*, so that tears etc., adv. cl. of effect to "shall blow."

406. The feelings which this speech discloses as working in Macbeth's

mind are, *first*, fear of consequences, specially dread of the torments of his own evil conscience; *second*, a sense of the baseness of so violating the laws of hospitality, of kinship, of gratitude, and of loyalty; *third*, a feeling of kindness and pity for Duncan (the "milk of human kindness" again); *fourth*, fear of the sympathy for Duncan that will be evoked by the deed; *fifth*, a conviction that, except his ambition, he has no real motive for the deed. Influenced by these feelings, he has resolved to "proceed no further in this business," when his wife, his evil genius, appears, to taunt him out of his unmanliness, as she deems it.

414. *Would be, desire to be,=would fain be.*

416. *Wherein you dress'd yourself*, att. cl. to "hope."

417. *So green and pale*, with so much jealousy (the green-eyed monster) and fear.

425. *Like the poor cat & the adage.* The proverb referred to is, "The cat loves fish, but dares not wet her feet."

428. *That made you break this enterprise to me.* She adroitly throws the responsibility of originating the enterprise upon Macbeth, in order to make him appear recreant. But it really originated with herself.

429. *Durst*, p. of dare,=didst dare.

432. *Did then adhere*, did then enter into our calculations, or were then favourable.

449. *What cannot you and I*, etc. Lady Macbeth is careful not to raise again the fears she has laid, by using words as plain and as strong as in the opening of her speech. She puts her thought in the most insinuating form, and that as a question to which there is but one inevitable answer.

## ACT II.

3. *'T is later*, n. cl. in apposition with "it," obj. of "take."

5. *Their candles*, the stars.

8. *Restrain in me*, etc.; Banquo (as he hints at line 20) has been tempted in his dreams—"in repose"—to commit some crime from which his waking nature recoils, and he implores Heaven's aid against the temptation.

16. *Shut up*, i.e., He is shut up, or enclosed.

19. *Which*, relative to "our will."

22. *Entreat an hour to serve*; engage or arrange for a suitable time.

25. *Cleave to my consent*, adhere to my purpose, or plan.

26. *So I lose none*, so that I lose none (no honour), adv. cl. of condition to "I shall be counsell'd:" so that=if.

32. *She strike upon the bell*, n. cl., obj. to "bid" (scil.) that she strike. We should now use the simple inf. after "bid."

47. *Which*, here refers to the *state* of the blade and dudgeon covered with blood.

48. *Inform* *thus*, presents this form or appearance.

52. *Hecate* ; Hecate was, in Greek mythology, one of the Titans, who, having become a goddess of the lower world, sent demons upon the earth and taught witchcraft, whence the allusion in the text. Dogs, honey, and black female lambs were sacrificed to her. See Note on III. 365.

55. *With Tarquin's ravishing strides* ; the folio reads *sides*, which has perplexed the commentators, and led to the usual efforts of emendation. Pope suggested *strides*, which, from the reference to "pace" above, and "steps" below, seems to give the truest meaning, and is now generally adopted. The steps of a ravisher, or of any one who moves stealthily with criminal intent, are generally long and cautious. The Tarquin referred to is

"Proud Sextus, who wrought the deed of shame,"—the son of Superbus and seducer of Lucretia. The name, however, must here be understood as a general term,=a Tarquin.

57. *Which way they walk*. *Which* is here an adjective, qualifying its cor. "way,"="hear not the direction in which they walk."

58. *Where-about*, a noun. *Where* itself is used as a noun :—

"Thou lovest *here*, a better *where* to find."—*Lear*, I. 1.

59. *And take the present horror from the time*, etc. ; i.e., lest my foot-steps break the silence which is so suitable to the season and the circumstances.

61. *Words . . . gives* ; here grammar is sacrificed to rhyme.

67. *The owl that shrieked* ; so,

"And yesterday the *bird of night* did sit  
Even at noonday, upon the market-place,  
Hooting and *shrieking*."—*Julius Cæsar*, I. 3.

68. *He is about it*, he is doing it, engaged in the deed.

70. *Possets*, potions of wine and milk, which it appears to have been customary to take at bed-time. It was evidently his *posset* that Macbeth referred to at line 31. In *Hamlet*, the verb to *posset* is used, meaning to thicken or curdle, as milk does when vinegar is poured upon it.

74. *The attempt . . . confounds*, our danger or confusion lies not in the deed, but in its being an attempt and no more, that is, a failure.

87. *That*, i.e., so that, the cl. is adv. of effect to "did laugh," and "cried."

92. *As they had seen me*, i.e., as if, adv. cl. to "one cried," etc., contracted for "as they would have done if they had seen me." Comp. L. *tanquam*=*tanquam* si.

93. *Listening their fear*, i.e., listening to. So,

"And now, Octavius,  
*Listen* great things."—*Julius Cæsar*. IV. 1.

There are other instances in old authors of verbs used without the preposition, by which now they are invariably followed. Thus also,

"But ere we could arrive the point proposed."—*Julius Cæsar*, I. 2.  
Milton also has

"Ere he arrive the happy isle."—*Par. Lost*, II. 409.

98. *So, i.e.*, "If they are so thought;" adv. of condition to "will make."

103. *Balm of hurt minds, great nature's second course.* Comp.

"Sleep, gentle sleep,

Nature's soft nurse."—*Henry IV.* (Part II.) III. 1.

The line in the text was probably in Young's mind when he wrote—

"Tired nature's sweet restorer, balmy sleep."—*Night Thoughts*, I. 1.

105. *Still it cried*, etc. It is characteristic of the guilty mind that it should fancy itself beset by hidden witnesses, and hear accusing voices in the air.

"Suspicion always haunts the guilty mind ;

The thief doth fear each bush an officer."—*Henry VI.* (Part III.) v. 6.

117. *Infirm of purpose*, a vocative phr. = a noun in the nom. of address.

120. *Withal*. "Blood," the object of this prep., must be taken out of the conditional cl., "if he do bleed." Shakespeare's puns, with which, as in the text (*gild* and *guilt*) he has marred many fine passages, are even more objectionable than his rhymes. (See I. 61 ; II. 310, etc.) Shakespeare has repeated this pun in

"England shall double *gild* his treble *guilt*."—*Henry IV.* Part II.

And in

"Have for the *gilt* of France ; O *guilt* indeed."—*Henry V.*

126. *The multitudinous seas incarnadine*. To incarnadine the sea is to give it the same hue that blood gives to flesh. The epithet "multitudinous" is not here used for populous, as regards the inhabitants of the sea, as has been suggested, but signifies exhaustless, as regards the extent of its waters.

130. *Retire we*, 1st pers. plur. imp. = let us retire.

131. *A little water*. What a grand antithesis, to the "multitudinous seas," and "all great Neptune's ocean," of Macbeth's soliloquy !

138. *Duncan*, here the obj. of "wake," not the nom. addressed as has sometimes been supposed. The whole phr. is an exclamation, rather than a direct address, though "thy" refers to the person knocking.

140. *He should have old i.e.*, He should have *olded*, or become old, worn himself out with the constant fatigue, so numerous are the calls. (See Vocabulary, *old*.)

146. *An equivocator*,—a Jesuit ; the name was so applied in the sixteenth century.

135. *My limited service*, a service to which I am appointed.

187. *The night has been unruly*, etc. Comp. *Julius Cæsar*, Act I. Sc. 3, and Act II. Sc. 2. "The obscure bird" is again the owl. Vide Note on II. 67.

204. *Destroy your sight with a new Gorgon*. This metaphor is taken from the legend of Medusa, the most famous of the Gorgons, and the only one of them who was mortal. For hair, she had hissing serpents, and every one who looked upon her was changed into stone.

210. *Death's counterfeit*, etc. Comp. II. 117, 118; but contrast the circumstances in which the figure is introduced.

214. *To countenance this horror*, to be in keeping with the horrible circumstances.

215. *That such, etc.*, adv. cl. of effect to "What's the business." *What* therefore—"how great."

231. *You are*, scil. "amiss."

236. *Badged with blood*, with the badge, or distinctive mark of blood upon them.

242. *I did kill them*. In Holinshed's account of the murder of Duncan, no details are given. Shakespeare has, however, taken many of the circumstances introduced into the play from Holinshed's account, in an earlier part of his *Historie*, of the murder of King Duffe by Dowald, at his wife's instigation (A.D. 960). From it he has taken the surfeiting of the grooms, and their subsequent murder, as well as the feigned grief and mock revengefulness of Macbeth.

251. *Breeched with gore*, sheathed in blood; covered with gory breeches or cases. Stevens suggests that it means covered with blood quite to the breeches or hilt. It is more probably a play upon the word "breach" in line 248, applied to the stabs which the daggers "unmannerly breeched with gore" had made.

261. *Our naked frailties hid*, etc. It must be remembered that they have been suddenly called up from rest, and are standing in the castle court. Comp. II. 134.

266. *Against the undivulged pretence I fight*, i.e., I declare war against whatever designs (pretence) of this treasonous malice are yet undivulged.

268. *Let's briefly put on manly readiness*. Macbeth echoes Banquo's advice: "Let us dress ourselves and meet in the hall." It would not become him to do anything else than encourage the inquiry.

283. SCENE II.—It is noteworthy that the "Old Man" of this scene appears nowhere else in the play. He serves the purpose of carrying us outside the castle, and of giving expression to contemporary opinion in the manner of a "chorus."

287. *As troubled with man's act*. Adv. phr. of cause to "threaten."

288. *His bloody stage*,—Comp.

"All the world's a stage."—*As You Like It*, II. 7.

289. *Strangles the travelling lamp*, obscures the sun.

291. *That darkness, etc.*, n. cl. in apposition with "it" in 290. "Is it, viz., that darkness does entomb the face of earth, etc.,—(owing to) night's predominance, or the day's shame?"

294. *A falcon, etc.*. Comp. the enumeration of prodigies here with the scene in *Julius Cæsar*, describing the portents that filled the air of Rome on the night preceding Cæsar's murder.

303. *Are stol'n*, perfect tense. Vide Note on I. 235.

310. *Thrifless ambition*, scil., *That is* thrifless ambition.

310. Here we have an instance of the awkwardness into which Shakespeare's rhyming perorations lead him: the "adieu" comes between two clauses of the same sentence.

312. *The sovereignty will fall upon Macbeth*, n. cl. in apposition with "it" (311).

313. *And gone to Scone*, etc. Comp. Hol. § 18.

313. *Scone* (pron. *Scoon*), an ancient royal palace, in the neighbourhood of Perth.

315. *Carried to Colme-kill*. Comp. Hol. § 18, "It was removed and conveyed unto Colmekill, and there laid in a sepulture amongst his predecessors."

318. *Thither*, i.e., to Scone.

### ACT III.

7. *Shine upon*, like "to smile upon," is here used metaphorically for to favour. *As* in this line is not the relative, but a pure conjunction: If there came truth from them (a thing that may be, *since* their speeches shine upon thee, Macbeth), Why, etc.

14. *We hold*. The use of the present for the future brings the future event nearer, and indicates the speaker's great interest in it. The peculiarity in this case is, that it is followed by a future in the next line, "I'll request," which may be called the future of politeness.

16. *The which*; the use of the demonstrative before the relative is common with old authors. Comp. It. *Il quäle*, and F. *Lequel*. The correlative of *which* must be taken out of the preceding clause: His duties are for ever knit to whatever his highness may command upon him.

25. *Go not my horse*; the protasis of a conditional sentence, = if my horse go not.

27. *Fail not our feast*; *fail* used transitively means to abandon, or be absent from, its object, because thereby it would be *disappointed*. The object, however, is usually personal, e.g. (The Lord) "will not *fail thee*, nor forsake thee," Deut. xxxi. 6. "I will not *fail you*."—*Mer. of Ven.* i. i.

33. *Therewithal*, in connexion with all that, not necessarily *in addition* to it.

43. *While then*, i.e., in the interval, in the *meanwhile*.

47. *But to be safely thus*, n. phr., subj. of "were something," understood.

50. *To*, i.e., up to, equivalent to, to match. His wisdom is equal to (as great as) his dauntless temper, or his valour.

52. *But he*, though a false concord in our day, was not so regarded by Shakespeare, or by still earlier writers. This solecism probably arose from the use of *but* sometimes as a conj., sometimes as a prep.

63. *For Banquo's issue*, i.e., for their behoof, a good example of a dative of advantage. Observe the repetition of "for them" and "them" in this passage, prompted by contemptuous hate.



66. *Mine eternal jewel*, i.e., my soul. Comp. "my darling," Ps. xxii. 20, xxxv. 17; "mine honour," Ps. vii. 5; Jer. xlix. 6; "my glory," Ps. xvi. 9. etc.

70. *Champion me to the utterance*, i.e., challenge me to a combat à l'outrance, which in the language of chivalry meant a life-and-death contest with naked spears.

75. *Which held you*. The cor. of this "which" is not "he," but "it :"—"It (i.e., that) which held you so under fortune was he."

76. *Which, you thought*, etc. This "which" has for its cor. "it which held you so under fortune : " constr. You thought which (i.e., it which held you so under fortune) had been our innocent self.

79. *How you were borne*, etc. A series of n. ol., in the objective after "I passed."

79. *How you were borne in hand*, how you were made a tool of.

81. *A notion crazed*. *Notion* is here used, by metonymy, for the mind.

86. *So gospell'd to pray*, i.e., as to pray. *So gospell'd* means, so full of the gospel that they could "pray for them which despitefully use you and persecute you." There is probably also a reference to the name of Gospellers, applied contemptuously to the early Puritans. "Good man" (87) is of course ironical.

93. *Valued file*; what would correspond with a modern "priced list," a list in which the quality and value of each dog are particularly stated.

98. *Particular addition*, a peculiar title, v. i. 195. *From*, in the sense of different from.

100. *File . . . rank*. The reference here is more directly (above it was so only by anticipation) to the "rank and file" of an army : i.e., to the distinction between the common soldiers of the line who form the *rank*, and the sergeants, etc., and inferior officers who form the *file*.

103. *Whose*, neuter, relating to business, the possessive of *which*.

114. *Bloody distance*, etc.; i.e., Our enmity has come to such close quarters, that every moment of his life is a direct attack upon mine.

120. *But wail his fall*; "but" here correlates antithetically "I must not sweep him from my sight," and "I must wail his fall."

122. *To your assistance do make love*. Court or woo your aid.

128. *The perfect spy of the time*. This somewhat perplexing expression seems to be sufficiently explained by the appositional phrase, "the moment on't." To *spy* is to look out warily; a *spy* is either one who does so, the act of doing so, or the result of doing so. The meaning, then, is, that he will give them minute information, first as to the *place* (127), and second as to the *time* when the deed is to be performed.

130. *Always thought that I require a clearness*; an abs. phr., the n. of which is a ol. = it always being kept in mind that I am to be kept clear of the deed.

146. *'Tis safer*, etc. The sentiment is, that it is safer not to have disturbed peace, than, having disturbed it, to dwell in *doubtful* joy.

153. *We have scotch'd the snake*; *scotch'd* has been substituted for "scorch'd," the reading of the first folio.

157. *Both the worlds suffer*, i.e., let both the worlds suffer, or sustain damage. *Frame* and *worlds* are obj. after *let*; *disjoint* and *suffer* are inf.

172. *Present him eminence*, treat him with great honour.

173. *Unsafe the while*, etc. This is a reflection suggested by the advice he has just given to his wife: The while (this interval of time) is unsafe, since we are compelled to tinge our honour with flattery. This is a proof, or indication, of our insecurity.

175. *And make our faces vizards*, etc. Comp.

"False face must hide what the false heart doth know."—I. 462: and,  
"Look like the innocent flower,  
But be the serpent under it."—I. 341, 342.

179. *Nature's copy*, i.e., Nature's copyhold or lease.

184. *Yawning peal*, is evidently a repetition of the "drowsy hum" of the preceding line.

192. *Rooky wood*, a wood frequented by rooks, a rookery.

199. *He needs not our mistrust*, etc., is said by the second murderer to the first, regarding the third: We need not mistrust him, since he delivers to us the instructions which Macbeth promised.—*Vide* line 120.

216. *Was't not the way?* Was it not part of the plan? It will be observed that this question is addressed to the third murderer, who in various ways shows better acquaintance with the ground and the plot than the other two. He probably belonged to the household of Macbeth.

220. *You know your own degrees*, you know the gradation of rank according to which you ought to sit at table.

224. *Keeps her state*, keeps her position of honour; while he descends from it and plays "the humble host."

230. *We'll drink a measure*. Measure is the goblet in which the wine was measured, here, as is common in modern poetry, used by metonymy for the wine itself.

233. *'Tis better thee without than he within*, i.e., the blood is better outside you, than he is in here.

241. *Whole as the marble*. Marble is often used as the type of perfection. The meaning here, therefore, is, stainless and without flaw, as unblemished marble.

250. *No teeth*, etc., obj. of "hath."

252. *The feast is sold*, etc. Johnson explains this to mean, "That which is not given cheerfully cannot be called a gift; it is something that must be paid for."

254. *'Tis given with welcome*, n. cl., indirect obj. of "vouch'd." That feast is formal and merely mercenary, which in the course of it is not often vouched (that) it is given with welcome.

261. *Who*. Syntax requires *whom*.

282. *Than pity for mischance.* Here Whately (quoted by Malone) well remarks, Macbeth betrays himself "by an overacted regard for Banquo, of whose absence from the feast he affects to complain, that he may not be suspected of knowing the cause, though at the same time he very unguardedly drops an allusion to that cause."

280. *The very painting.* Nothing but the imagining or deceiving raised by your fear.

282. *Flaws*, here used (as in Hakluyt) to mean *sudden gusts* or storms.

285. *Authorized by*, on the authority of.

291. *Monuments* here means tombs,—another instance of metonymy.

292. *Maws of kites*, the peculiarity of the kite which is here referred to is, that it is their nature to disgorge by the maw certain portions of their food.

294. *If I stand here*; this is an oath = As surely as I stand here.

301. *Murthers*, here means death-wounds. Comp. 247, "The least, a death to nature."

311. *We thirst*, we drink,—the cause put for the effect.

312. *And all to all*, and drink all good wishes to all, a repetition of line 309.

321. *Hyrcau*, belonging to Hyrcania, a province in ancient Persia, on the south and east of the Caspian Sea (*Hyrcanum Mare*).

325. *If trembling I inhabit then.* Inhabit is here used as a compound of "in-" and "habit" to dress, or n. *habit*, a dress. It has "trembling" for its object, and we explain "If I inhabit trembling" to mean, If I wear trembling as a habit, dress, or covering. It may also be explained to mean If, from fear, I remain at home then. In this case *trembling* is an attr. to *I*.

332. *You make me strange*, etc. He means to say, I thought I knew myself, and I thought I was a bold man; but when I see you unappalled by sights which blanch my cheeks, I begin to suspect that I do not truly know my own disposition.

339. *Stand not upon the order of your going.* Comp. line 220, "You know your own degrees." Their waiting to retire (as court etiquette required) in the order of their rank would waste time; when, to prevent the revelations to which Macbeth's madness is leading him, it is necessary that the hall should be cleared instantly.

344. *Understood relations*, i.e., the relations (understood by augurs) between the different aspects of the omens and the events foreshadowed.

345. *Magot-pies*, magpies; the former, according to Steevens, "is the original name of the bird." The pie has always been regarded as a bird of ill omen. In some parts of the country, to this day, the superstitious augur from the appearance of one magpie a birth; from that of two, a marriage; of three, a death.

346. *The secret of man of blood*, the most thoroughly concealed murderer.

348. *How say'st thou?* i.e., what explanation do you give?

352. *I keep a servant fee'd.* Comp. Hol. § 26, "For Makbeth had in euery noble man's house, one slie fellow or other *in fee with him.*"

358. *Returning were as tedious as go o'er.* Comp. Dryden,—

"I have already past  
The middle of the stream; and to return  
Seems greater labour, than to venture o'er."—*Œdipus*, iv.

364. *Young in deed, i.e., inexperienced in doing*, in crime, as appears from his saying that his fear "wants hard use."

365. SCENE V.—Shakespeare has been blamed for mixing up classical with northern mythology by making Hecate, a Greek divinity, the mistress of the Gothic weird sisters of this play. Tollet defends Shakespeare, quoting Scot's *Discovery of Witchcraft*, to the effect that it was a common belief that, in the night-time, witches "ride abroad with *Diana*, the goddess of the Pagans," Diana being one of the divinities with whom the triple Hecate is identified. It is also noticeable that Middleton has committed the same confusion in his *Witch*, which is believed to have appeared before *Macbeth*, and to which it has been maintained that Shakespeare was indebted for the whole of the incantations, if not for the very conception of the weird sisters. The witches' song, "Come away, come away" at the close of this scene, is given at full length by Middleton; and there are other coincidences, hardly less striking, throughout the scenes in which they appear. Dr. Craik, however, justly censures the zeal of the commentators in making out everything in Shakespeare "to be borrowed or stolen," and suggests, in regard to these coincidences, that probably "the verses in question were common popular rhymes, preserved amongst the traditions of the nursery or the country fireside."

376. *As others do.* Stevens suggests that these words are an interpolation, and that the lines originally stood,

"A spiteful, and a wrathful; who  
Loves for his own ends, not for you."

Certainly the words objected to add too much to the line, and too little to the sense.

370. *Acheron* is here used not in its earlier sense of a river of the lower world, but in its later one, of the lower regions in general. The pit of Acheron, from the lines following, must here be taken as meaning the mouth or opening of the passage from the upper to the nether world, Milton, translating the name (*ἄχαι πέωρ*, the stream of woe), calls it

"Sad Acheron, of sorrow black and deep."—*Par. Lost*, II. 578.

Acheron was the name of several rivers in Greece and Italy, all of which were believed to be connected with the lower world.

388. *Vaporous drop, profound.* The drop is *vaporous* as to its form, *profound* as to qualities, and the effects which it is to produce.

397. "*Come away, come away.*" The whole of this song is found in Middleton's *Witch*, above referred to.

402. *Can interpret*, middle voice; meaning "Which admit of further interpretation."

408. *Who cannot want the thought*, etc. Malone observes correctly, that the sense requires "who can want the thought?" the affirmative interro-

gation being equal to the negative response, "*no one* can want the thought," etc. See Note to i. 303.

425. *Holds the due of birth*; i.e., withholds the crown.

427. *The most pious Edward*; i.e., Edward the Confessor, then King of England.

432. *That*, introduces a number of adv. cl. of purpose, modifying "is gone."

435. *Free from our feasts*, etc. The sense requires us to connect *from* with *knives*: "Our feasts and banquets free from bloody knives." The infinitives *give*, *free*, *do*, *receive*, are all under the regimen of "That we may."

441. *Turns me*; the "me" is here analogous to the Greek, Latin, and German dative used to indicate the person indirectly affected. Originally it was used of the person to whose advantage or disadvantage anything redounded; but it came to be applied to one only remotely connected with a transaction, as on-looker or listener. The "me" was used in this sense indiscriminately for all persons, first, second, and third: *E.g.*, "The skillful shepherd *gild'd me* (i.e., for his own use) certain wands."—*Mer. of Ven.* i. 3.

446. *Fly*, the 3d pers. sing. imp.

449. *Under* relates "hand" to "suffering."

#### ACT IV.

44. *Open, locks, whoever knocks*. "Open," 2d pers. plur. imp.; "locks," nom. of address; "whoever knocks" adv. cl. to "open."

61. *That hath eaten*, etc. Holinshed has preserved a law of King Kenneth II. of Scotland, which devotes to death by stoning any "sowe" that shall "eat hir pigges," while she is also to be buried, "that no man eate of hyr fleshe."

65, *et seq.* *The apparitions*. Steevens, following Upton, explains the "armed head" to symbolize the head of Macbeth, afterwards cut off by Macduff, and carried to Malcolm; the "bloody child," to represent Macduff untimely ripped from his mother's womb; and the "child crowned," to foreshadow Malcolm, bearing the boughs of Birnam wood.

74. *Had I three ears, I'd hear thee*. The apparition has called his name three times, and this is his mode of answering each call, and of intimating that each has excited in him an intense desire to hear.

81. *That I may tell*, etc. Adv. cl. of purpose to "shalt not live."

89. *Birnam wood*, anciently a royal forest, including Birnam hill, south of Dunkeld, Perthshire.

89. *Dunsinane hill*, one of the Sidlaw hills in Scotland, co. Perth. The name is here accented on the second syllable, Dun-sin'-ane; in v. iii., and subsequent places, the accent is on the first and third syllables, Dun'-sin-ane'.

91. *Impress the forest*, i.e., treat or command the forest like an impress soldier.

107. *Doth sear mine eye-balls, i.e.*, doth burn them by its fiery, flashing brilliancy, referring to the custom of burning the eyes to blindness by holding before them a red-hot plate.

111. *The crack of doom*, to the up-breaking and dissolution of the universe.

115. *Twofold balls and treble sceptres*, doubtless intended as a compliment to King James I., of the house of Stuart, which, according to Holinshed, whom Shakespeare closely followed, was descended from Banquo, through his son Fleance (comp. Hol. § 22). James I. was the first sovereign who reigned over the two islands containing the three kingdoms of England, Scotland, and Ireland.

139. *Flighty purpose*, a purpose suddenly entertained, as if caught when on flight.

147. *No boasting, i.e.*, this is no boasting, like a fool.

155. *Whether it was his wisdom, or his fear*, n. cl., object to "know."

161. *Her young ones in her nest*, abs. phr.; adv. to "fight."

167. *The fits o' the season*. The changes of the times; as in the expression "fits and starts."

169. *And do not know ourselves*, scil. "to be so;" because treason then included offences not usually held to be treasonable, or what were no offences at all.

169. *When we hold rumour from what we fear, i.e.*, when we accept or circulate rumours, because we fear them to be true.

173. *Shall not be long but I'll be here again*. The sub. of "shall be" is "it." "But" is a prep. governing the n. cl. following in the obj. case.

212. *Though in your state of honour I am perfect*, is an antithesis to the preceding line: You do not know me, but I am fully aware of your rank.

216. *To fright you thus*, adv. phr. of cause to "I am too savage."

217. *To do worse to you, i.e.*, to do worse than "to fright you thus;" which probably means to abstain from frightening them thus, to let them be attacked without a warning.

228. *Where such as thou mayst find him*, we should expect "so unsanctified that." The construction is to be explained by supplying, after "so unsanctified," *as to be a place* where, etc.

233. *Empty*, is an indirect object of "weep."

235. *Bestride our down-fall'n birthdom*. Stand over our down-fallen birth-right, sword in hand, for the purpose of defending it.

237. *That it resounds, i.e.*, so that it resounds; adv. cl. of manner to "strike."

239. *Syllable of dolour*, a compressed cry of grief,—appropriate in connexion with "yell'd."

242. *What you have spoke*, n. cl. in app. with "it," subj. of "may be so."

243. *Sole name*, whose name alone, without mentioning his deeds, "blisters our tongue."

248. *You may deserve.* The old copy reads "discerne." The emendation (which is Theobald's) is obviously correct. Macduff may "deserve something" of Macbeth by betraying Malcolm.

248. *And wisdom, scil. "it is" wisdom.*

250. *A good and virtuous nature may recoil in an imperial charge.* Johnson well explains this to mean, "A good mind may recede from goodness in the execution of a royal commission."

254. *Yet grace must still look so, i.e.,* though foul things may look fair, fair things cannot look fairer.

260. *Let not my jealousies, etc., i.e.,* do not suppose that my suspicions are meant to dishonour you; they arise only from a regard to my own safety.

279. *More suffer, etc., by him that shall succeed.* Comp. the whole of this scene with Hol. §§ 27-33.

282. *So grafted, i.e., "to be" so grafted; inf. obj. to "know."*

294. *Better Macbeth, than such a one to reign.* Constr.: (It is) better (for) Macbeth (to reign), than (for) such a one to reign.

301. *The time you may so hoodwink; a translation of Holinshed's "that no man shall be aware thereof."*

306. *His, this one's, to correspond with "this other's."*

315. *Of your mere own, i.e.,* of what is simply your own, without touching the goods of others.

337. *Died every day she lived.* Comp. 1 Cor. xv. 31, "I die daily."

338. *Repeat st upon thyself, reproachest thyself with.*

361. *At a point, concentrated, assembled at a rendezvous.*

362. *And the chance of goodness be like our warranted quarrel, i.e.,* and may the event in its goodness correspond with the justness of our quarrel; *be* is therefore the imp. It has been proposed to read—

"And the chance, of goodness,  
Be like our warranted quarrel!"

And also,

"And the chance, O goodness,  
Be like our warranted quarrel!"

But neither of these emendations seems to throw much light upon what, at the best, is a somewhat obscure passage.

368. *That stay his cure, that wait to be cured by him.* The malady, as appears from the sequel, was scrofula or the king's-evil, so called because it was believed that the power of removing the sickness by "touching" was inherited by the English kings, from Edward the Confessor (the king referred to in the text) downwards, even to the Hanoverian dynasty. The practice reached its height in the reign of Charles II., who, between 1660 and 1664, is said to have "touched" 24,000 persons. The last who "touched" for the evil was the Pretender, who claimed this as part of his royal prerogative.

378. *The mere despair of surgery, those whom surgery has despaired of curing.*

379. *A golden stamp.* Coins touched by the king were supposed to have the power, when worn about the person, of warding off certain diseases. These coins were called Royal Touch-pieces.

380. *Put on with holy prayers*; the king, in touching for the evil, pronounced words to the effect: "I touch, but God healeth." In earlier editions of the *Common Prayer*, "the office for the healing" was an integral part of the service.

381. *He leaves, etc.*, n. cl. in app. to "it," subj. of "is spoken."

393. *But who knows nothing, except (those) who are ignorant*; att. cl. to "those" understood.

396. *A modern ecstasy, i.e.*, a new kind of rapture.

397. *For who*; grammar would require "for whom," i.e., for whom the knell is tolled.

399. *Or ere, before.* These two words are a repetition of each other, for they are in meaning and origin the same. See Vocabulary, *or*.

401. *That of an hour's age doth hiss the speaker*, so thick and fast do they come, that even those but an hour old are stale, and held in contempt.

407. *When I came hither, etc.* Observe that Rosse does not yet answer Macduff's questions directly, or yield to his last appeal, but again goes into generalities, as if seeking for courage to tell his sad tale.

409. *That were out, that were in rebellion.*

417. *An older, etc.* Constr.: "None that Christendom gives out is an older and a better soldier."

434. *Pull your hat upon your brows*, an indication of deep and speechless sorrow. So in the old ballad:—

"He pulled his hat over his browe,  
And in his heart he was full woe."

443. *He has no children*, clearly refers to Malcolm, who knew nothing of a father's feelings, and is thus chidden for his premature suggestion of revenge.

452. *Naught that I am*, is self-crimination, as a man may exclaim, "Fool that I am."

455. *Let grief, convert to anger, blunt not the heart, enrage it.* The usual punctuation of this passage is,

"Let grief convert to anger; blunt not the heart, enrage it."

With this reading, it is difficult to see whom or what "grief" is to "convert to anger;" but by taking "convert" as an adj. or participle qualifying "grief," a good meaning is obtained, and the idea of grief not *blunting* but *enraging* his heart, appropriately follows up the suggestion, that the reflections of Macduff's last speech should be the *whetstone* of his sword.

462. *Heaven forgive him too.* The word modified by *too* is *forgive*: If he escape, let him also be forgiven. The meaning is, I will as soon let him escape, as heaven will forgive him for his crimes.

464. *Our lack is nothing but our leave, i.e.*, all that we want now is the order or leave to start.



## ACT V.

4. *Since his majesty went into the field.* Steevens remarks that "this is one of Shakespeare's oversights. He forgot that he had shut up Macbeth in Dunsinane, and surrounded him with besiegers." This criticism seems to take the words too literally. They simply mean, since Macbeth *first* took the field against Malcolm, and do not necessarily imply that he is still actually "in the field" when they are spoken.

19. *This is her very guise, i.e.,* the dress and appearance which she usually presents when thus walking in her sleep.

35. *Hell is murky.* Steevens suggests that Lady Macbeth contemptuously quotes these words from her husband, and shames him for hinting at such an idea, with the taunt, "a soldier, and afraid."

37. *Who knows it*, n. cl., obj. of "fear,"=any person's knowing it. *What*, in line 36, is the obj. of measure or degree, and may be taken as an interrogative adverb, to which the understood answer is "not at all."

55. *For the dignity of the whole body, i.e.,* for the sake of outward rank and dignity.

77. *Mated*, in the sense of *check-mated* at chess.

80. *His uncle Siward.* Duncan, according to Holinshed, had married a daughter of Siward, Earl of Northumberland, the father of the Earl who accompanied Malcolm to Scotland.

83. *Excite the mortified man.* Their provocation would excite even a man who has "mortified" his body, and in whom all earthly passion is dead, i.e., a recluse or monk.

89. *Protest their first of manhood,* for the first time claim to be men.

93. *He cannot buckle his distempered cause within the belt of rule, i.e.,* his cause is not one that can be carried on by the usual expedients; his excitement is either madness or rage.

102. *When all that is within him does condemn itself for being there.* He is so filled with self-reproach, that he sees nothing but crime on his soul.

105. *Medicine*, Steevens says, means here "physician," from F. *médecin*, and he spells the word in the text "medecin." This alteration seems as unnecessary as, on comparing it with what follows, the explanation appears erroneous. If Caithness speaks of himself and his associates as *drops* to be poured along with him, it seems wrong to represent him as calling Malcolm anything but the *physic* or *remedy* for the sickness of the state.

110. *Let them fly all*, a concessive cl. = though they *all* fly; indicating that reports had been brought him of the desertion of his subjects.

118. *I sway by, i.e.,* I am swayed by; another example of an English middle voice.

123. *Go prick thy face, and over-red thy fear.* Draw blood from thy face to smear over thy paleness.

130. *Will chair me ever, or dis-seat me now.* The first folio reads, "will cheere me euer or diseat me now." The second folio substitutes "disease" for "diseat" which is evidently an attempt to get over the incompatibility of "cheere" with "diseat." The substitution of "chair" for "cheere" is, of course, only another way of overcoming the same difficulty: and it certainly gives a more rational sense than can be derived from the other readings.

136. *Curses, . . . mouth-honour, etc.*,—obj. after "I must look to have," understood.

146. *Not so sick, i.e.*, she is ill not so much from sickness as, etc.

168. *Death and bane*, a pleonasm, perhaps, like "away and clear" two lines afterwards, for the sake of the rhyme.

179. *We learn no other but, i.e.*, we learn no other *report* but that, etc.

183. *Both more and less*, both the greater and the less in rank.

185. *Let our just censures attend the true event, i.e.*, may the event justify our censures.

189. *What we shall say we have, and what we owe, i.e.*, the limits of our *right* and our *duty*.

197. *Were they not 'forced,* were they not strengthened or re-enforced.

210. *Such a word*, such intelligence.

213. *Recorded time, i.e.*, time of which a record shall be kept, as opposed to eternity.

215. *The way to dusty death.* Comp. Ps. xxii. 15, "Thou hast brought me into the dust of death."

221. *Thy story*, the obj. to some such verb as "repeat," "give me," understood.

234. *I pull in resolution*, I restrain or check myself in that which I had resolved upon. *In*, adv. modifying "pull."

256. *Bear-like, I must fight the course, i.e.*, like a baited bear, I must fight against all who enter the arena against me.

272. *Either thou, Macbeth, etc.* If "thou" is correctly taken as the nom. here, where is its predicate? *Either thou, or else I, sheathe my sword*, is hardly a logical disjunction. Malone suggests that a line has been lost here. It is not necessary to suppose anything of the kind. It is more likely that "thou" is here used as the pronoun of address without reference to its case, and that we should grammatically construe it as the obj. Shakespeare has used "he" for "him" in III. 52; why not "thou" for "thee" here, especially as it is considerably separated from its regimen? The connexion is: "I cannot strike at wretched kernes; either I strike at thee, Macbeth, or else I sheathe my sword undeeded."

283. *Beside us*, on our side.

284. *Play the Roman fool.* Probably Shakespeare was thinking of the death of Brutus on the field of Philippi (*Julius Caesar*, v. 5), or of the words of Brutus in the same tragedy (v. 1),—

"By which I did blame Cato for the death  
Which he did give himself."

285. *Whiles I see lives, the gashes do better upon them, i.e.,* so long as I see living men opposed to me, the gashes do better upon *them* than upon *me*.

309. *Painted upon a pole, i.e.,* a painting hoisted on a pole: it hence appears that the practices of modern showmen are as old at least as Shakespeare's time.

317. *And damned be him;* another instance of Shakespeare's disregard of the cases of pronouns. *Vide* III. 52; v. 272, Notes.

326. *No sooner . . . but,* for "no sooner *than*," frequently to be met with in Shakespeare. *Vide* I. 40, Note, and comp.—

"O fairest flower! no sooner blown *but* blasted."—*Milton*.

339. *Thy kingdom's pearl, i.e.,* the best and truest men of thy realm.

347. *What's more to do, n. cl., obj. of* "we will perform," line 356.

## EXPLANATION OF TERMS.

*Apodosis*, the principal member of a double period, or of a hypothetical sentence; the conclusion, answering to the *protasis*.

*Protasis*, the subordinate member of a double period or hypothetical sentence, containing the premises or supposition. It generally precedes the apodosis; hence its name.

*Diminutive*, a derivative word expressing the little of its primitive, *e.g.*, *duckling* from *duck*, *mannikin* from *man*, etc.

*Patronymic*, a derivative from the name of an ancestor, to express descent, or son-ship, *e.g.*, *Pelides*, the sons of *Peleus*; *Thomson*, the son of *Thomas*; *Fitz-William*, *Williamson*.

*Metonymy*, a rhetorical figure, by which correlative terms are interchanged; as, author for works, sign for thing signified, vessel for contents, etc., *e.g.*, "He drank the fatal *cup* (poison)."

*Simile*, a figure of comparison in which the

sign of comparison (as, like) is employed.

*Metaphor*, a figure of comparison in which no sign of comparison is used.

*Pleonasm*, an admissible or legalised redundancy; as when the Psalmist says, "I cried unto the Lord *with my voice*."

*Phrase*, a form of words without a subject or predicate; as, *Spring returning*.

*Clause*, a member of a sentence containing a subject and predicate within itself; as, *When spring returns*.

*Analysis*: The system of Analysis in the foregoing notes regards the elements of which a sentence is composed as of three degrees, (1) a single word, (2) a phrase, (3) a clause. These elements are classified, not according to the parts of speech that introduce them—but according to the functions they perform in sentences. Thus classified they are either *Attributive*, *Substantive*, or *Adverbial*. The following table exhibits the system:—

The Elements of a Sentence are,—

1st Degree.	Verb.	Adjective.	Noun or Pronoun.	Adverb.
2d Degree.	Predicative Phrase.	Attributive Phrase.	Substantive Phrase.	Adverbial Phrase.
3d Degree.	Predicative Clause.	Attributive Clause.	Substantive Clause.	Adverbial Clause.

# VOCABULARY.

**Abed**, in bed, II. 12. [A.S. *an*, on or in; *bed*, bed.]

**about**, engaged in, II. 68. [A.S. *but-an*, around.]

**addition**, title, a heraldic and legal term, I. 182; III. 98. [L. *ad*, to; *do*, I give.]

**adhere**, suit, answer. [L. *ad*, to; *hæreo*, I stick.]

**adieu**, to God! a salutation at parting, II. 319. [F. *à*, to; *dieu*, God.]

**afear'd**, afraid, I. 419. [A.S. *a/feran*, to frighten, of which *a/fered* is the pp.]

**afeard**, confirmed, IV. 265. [F. *affeuré*, to appraise, fix a price upon.]

**alarm'd**, apprised, signalled, II. 53. [It. *all'arme*, to arms.]

**all-thing**, wholly, III. 13. Something is also used as an adv., II. 9. He was something disappointed. [Comp. Sc. *d'thing* = everything; *d'where* = everywhere.]

**an**, if, III. 419. [Radically the same word as *and*, indicating the equality of the two propositions it connects.]

**annoyance**, hurt, injury, V. 75. [L. *ad*, to; *noceo*, I hurt; N. F. *annoyer*; F. *nuire*.]

**anon**, immediately, I. 9. [A.S. *on an*, in one.]

**appal**, to make pale, III. 279. In Chaucer, intrans., to become pale. [L. *ad*, *paleo*, I am pale; F. *pâlir*.]

**aroint**, get behind, begone, I. 86. [Goth. *ar*, *ar*, go; *hynth*, behind.]

**auger-hole**, the hole bored by an auger, II. 257. [A.S. *gār*, a sharp point, a spear.]

**avaunt**, forward! be off! III. 313. [F. *avant*, from *avancer*, to advance; hence *vaunt*, to boast; *van*, the front of an army.]

**avouches**, attests, asserts, V. 239. [N. F. *voucher*, to call; L. *voco*.]

**Badged**, marked, smeared, dabbled, II. 236.

**bane**, poison, death, V. 168. [A.S. *ðana*, death; whence also *hen-bane*, a poisonous herb.]

**battle**, division, battalion, V. 243. [F. *bataille*; W. *batei*. The radical idea is that of beating, A.S. *beat-an*.]

**be-all**, all that is, I. 385. [*Be*, Imper.; *all*, intensifying particle.]

**become**, to be befitting, = L. *deceat*, I. 54. [A.S. *ge-cweman*; Ger. *be-queren*, to be suitable; *ge-* is the A.S. augment, O E. *y*, as *y-clept*.]

**become**, to be made, or come to be, = L. *feri*. [A.S. *be-cuman*, to happen.]

**bedam**, witch, hag, III. 366. [F. *belle*, fair; *dame*, lady. It is used by Spenser in its literal sense, of "fair lady."]

**benison**, blessing, II. 322. [F. *benisson*, L. *benedictio*.]

**bestow'd**, concealed, III. 29. [A.S. *be-*, intensifying particle, same as Goth. *ge-*, (L. *con-*, Prof. Key); *stow*, a place, hence Eng. *stow*, to lay up, *stowage*, *steward*, *Stuart*.]

**birthdom**, birth-right, or privilege of birth, IV. 235. [A.S. *beorh*, from *beor*, and *-dōm*, judgment; as a suffix, jurisdiction, e.g., *kingdom*; or state, e.g., *freedom*, wisdom.]

**blanket**, thick covering, I. 329. [F. *blanchet*.]

**blasted**, barren, subjected to a blighting influence, lit. destroyed by wind, I. 154. [A.S. *blæstan*, *blæsan*, to blow; whence *blaze*, blossom, blast, bluster, etc.]

**blood-bolter'd**, smeared or be-spattered with blood, IV. 117 [Steevens says the word *bolter* is peculiar to Warwickshire, and means to daub or smear.]

**boot**, addition; to boot, besides, IV. 263. [A.S. *bōt*, amends, satisfaction, from *bētan*, to amend; whence *booty* and *bootless* (profitless).]

**breeched**, covered, or sheathed, II. 251. (See Note on that line.)

**brainsickly**, weakly, irresolutely, II. 110.

**brinded**, streaked, as with flames, iv. 1. [A.S. *bryne*, aflame, *brynan*, to burn; Ger. *brennan*.]

**brutted**, noised abroad, v. 276. [F. *bruit*, noise; *bruire*, to roar.]

**but**, (1) prep., except, iii. 52 (see Note) (2) adv., only, iii. 108; (3) conj., expressing the adversative relation, ii. 182; (4) negative relative, = which—not. [A.S. *butan* = *be-utan*, be out, without; but used as an adverb is always preceded by a negative, expressed or implied; not *but* = only.]

**butress**, a projection from a wall, built between the windows, and at the angles, a prop or support, i. 356. [F. *boutier*, to thrust.]

**by**, prep., past, beside, near to, iv. 181. [A.S. *bi*, *big*: the radical idea is that of nearness; the secondary meaning is that of instrumentality. In the following line from *Julius Caesar*, the first *by* denotes nearness, the second, instrumentality:—

“As here, *by* Caesar, and *by* you, cut off.”]

**Caldron**, a boiler, lit. a vessel capable of standing heat, iv. 4. [L. *caldarium*, from *calidus*, *calidus*, hot.]

**captivity**, the act of making captive, i. 16, where it is equivalent to *captivation* in its literal sense. *Captivity* is now limited to the state of being a captive. [L. *captus*, taken.]

**card**, chart, i. 97; but here the reference probably is to the “card” or fly of the compass, on which the “quarters” or points are marked. [L. *charta*; F. *carte*.]

**ceremony**, forms of courtesy, lit. a religious rite, iii. 255. [L. *ceremonia*.]

**chamberlains**, those who attend in the chamber, i. 443. [F. *chambellan*; Du. *kamerling*.]

**chance**, event, that which happened, ii. 225. [L. *cadere*, to fall; F. *echoir*.]

**chaudron**, entrails, iv. 81.

**charnel-house**, a place for keeping the bones of the dead, ii. 290. [F. *charnier*, a dead-house; L. *carne-is*, of flesh.]

**cleave**, adhere, stick to, ii. 25. [A.S. *cleofan*, or *clifan*: cleave, to split (wood), is from a different root, A.S. *cleofan*, or *clifan*, to split.]

**clept**, named, iii. 92. [All that remains of *ge-clypode*, the pp. of A.S. *cleopian*, *clypian*. Robert of Gloucester (1300) writes it *yclepud*; Wiclif and Chaucer, *yclept*, *clepid*; Spenser, *cleaped*; Shakespeare, *clept*.]

**cling**, shrink or shrivel up, v. 232. [A.S. *clingan*, to wither.]

**coign**, an angle or corner, i. 356. In masonry, a corner stone is called a *quoin*. [F. *coin*; L. *cuneus*, a wedge. “Coin,” money, is from the same root, “doubtless from the stamping having been effected by means of a wedge.”—Wed.]

**compt**, readiness; the state of being reckoned up for audit, i. 375. [F. *compte*, an account; L. *computo*, I reckon up.]

**confineless**, without limits or bounds, iv. 286. [L. *con*, *finis*, end, border; less, A.S. *leas*, suffix of privation.]

**continent**, restraining (passions), chaste, temperate, iv. 293. [L. *con*, *teneo*, I hold.]

**convince**, to overpower, i. 444; defies, iv. 368. [L. *con*, *vincio*, I subdue.]

**copy**, copyhold, or lease, iii. 179. [F. *copie*, a picture, image. Copyhold tenure is the holding of land by copy of court roll.]

**corporal**, having a body, i. 158. [This sense is now usually attached to *corporeal*. L. *corpor-is*, of the body; and adj. *corporeus*, belonging to the body.]

**countenance**, to favour; to be in keeping with, ii. 214. [F. *contenance*; L. *con*, *teneo*, I hold.—See favour.]

**cow'd**, depressed with fear, v. 801. [Sw. *kufwa*, to bring down.]

**Dainty**, nice, scrupulous, ii. 280. [W. *dant*, a tooth; L. *dens*,—the word is therefore equivalent to *toothsome*.]

**deign**, grant, i. 73. [F. *daigner*, to vouchsafe; L. *dignus*, worthy. *Deign* is usually intrans., to condescend; here it is trans. = to condescend to give, to grant.]

**disjoint**, fall in pieces, iii. 156, where it is used intransitively. [L. *dis*, asunder; *junctus*, joined.]

**do**, to put off, or banish. [E. *do*, off; as to *don* (to put on) is a contraction of *do*, on.]

**dolour**, grief, iv. 239. [L. *dolor*; F. *doleur*.]

**doom**, judgment, day of judgment, ii. 212. [A.S. *dóm*, judgment, whence *deman*, to deem, to judge.]

**dudgeon**, (1) the root of the box-tree, the handle of a dagger made of that root, ii. 46; (2) illwill, anger.

**dwindle**, to waste away, i. 103. [Dim. from *dwine*; A.S. *dwinn-an*, to consume.]

**Earnest**, a proof of being in earnest, money given in hand to assure a har-

- gain**, a pledge, i. 180, 208. [A.S. *geornost*, *cornost*, superlative of *georn*, desirous: W. *ern*, earnest-money; Sc. *aris*; L. *artha*. *Yearn* is from the same root as *georn*.]
- ecstasy**, distraction, or unhinging of the mind, iii. 162; rapture, v. 396. [Gr. *is*, out; *ekstasis*, a standing.]
- end-all**, consummation, i. 886. [E. *end*, imper.; *all*, intensifying particle.]
- entreat**, ask, arrange for, ii. 22. [F. *en*, *traiter*, to meddle with; L. *tractare*, to handle.]
- equivocator**, one who uses words in a double sense, a Jesuit, ii. 146. Comp. "Then, said the Hind, as you the matter state,  
Not only Jesuits can equivocate."—  
DRYDEN, *Hind and Panther*.  
[L. *æquus*, equal, *vox*, a word; F. *équivoque*.]
- ere**, before, iv. 399. [A.S. *ær*; Goth. *air*, first. See *or*.]
- expedition**, speed, swiftness, ii. 245, where it is used in the sense of *expeditiousness*. [See *speed*.]
- Fail**, (1) intrans., to miss, to be unsuccessful, i. 439; (2) trans., to be absent from, iii. 27. [F. *faillir*, to fail, slip; L. *fallere*, to deceive.]
- farewell**, go well! ii. 319. An expression of good-will at leave-taking, goodbye. [A.S. *faran*; Ger. *fahren*, to go.]
- farrow**, a litter of pigs, iv. 62. [A.S. *feark*, a litter; L. *verres*; Gr. *ἰγῆες*; F. *verrat*.]
- fantastical**, imaginary, creatures of the phantasy, i. 182, 215. [Gr. *φαντασῶ*, I make to appear.]
- favour**, expression of face, i. 348. Comp. "I have surely seen him,  
His favour is familiar to me."—  
Cymb. v. 5.
- And,  
"I know that virtue to be in you,  
Brutus,  
As well as I do know your outward favour."—*Jul. Cæs.* i. ii.  
The name which belongs primarily to the feeling is here transferred to that by which the feeling is most readily indicated. It is noteworthy that "countenance" is an equivalent for *favour* in both its senses.—*Vile Craik's English of Shakespeare*, p. 87. [L. *favor*; F. *favor*.]
- fee-grief**, private or personal grief, grief which belongs to an individual, as contrasted with that which concerns "the general cause;" iv. 422. [Fee is A.S. *feoh*, (1) cattle, (2) money or property: comp. L. *pecus*, cattle; *pecunia*, money. *Fief* and *feud*, an estate held by an inferior on condition of military service (*feudal* tenure), are of the same root. *Grief* is F. *grief*, from L. *gravis*, heavy. *Grief* is thus *heaviness* of heart.]
- fell**, adj., cruel, iv. 217, the redundancy in "fell cruelty" must mean absolute or excessive cruelty. [F. *felle*, and *felon*, cruel, whence E. *felon*.—Wed. Sc. *fell*, clever, mettlesome.—J.]
- fell**, n., skin, v. 208. [Goth. *filli*, O. N. *fell*; Du. *vel*; L. *pell-is*.]
- fel!** interj., expressing disapprobation, v. 86. [Ger. *pfui*; W. *fi*; also Gr. *φῆ*; L. *phy*, *vac*, *vah*. "The origin is the act by which we are instinctively led to defend ourselves against a bad smell, viz., shutting the passage through the nose, and expelling the breath through the screwed-up mouth and protruded lips."—Wed.]
- firstlings**, first produce, or offspring, iv. 141, 142. [The termination *-ling* is the A.S. suffix meaning state or condition, and also forming diminutives, as *duck-ling*: *-ling* is compounded of the diminutive suffix *-el*, and *-ing* which, originally a genitive suffix, was employed to make patronymics. The ideas of "son" and "little-ness" are obviously cognate.]
- fits**, intermittent periods, changes, as in the expression "fits and starts," iv. 167. [It. *fiata*, time.]
- flaws**, sudden storms, iii. 282. [Sw. *flaga*, (1) a blast of wind; consequently, (2) a crack, a breach, a *flaw*. *Flag*, *flag-stone*, and *flake*, are from the same root.]
- flighty**, sudden, suddenly formed, iv. 139. [From *fly*, A.S. *fléogan*; Ger. *fliegen*.]
- flout**, insult or mock, i. 62. [A.S. *flutan*, to scold; Sc. *flyte*.]
- foysons**, plenty, iv. 314. [F. *foison*, abundance; from L. *fusto*, a pouring out.]
- frieze**, the border, usually ornamented with figures, running beneath the cornice in architecture, i. 855. [F. *frieze*; It. *fregio*. Wedgewood connects these words, as well as *frieze*, coarse cloth, and *freeze*, *frost*, *frigid*, with the same root, *friss* or *frit*, representing a rustling or shivering motion.—Vol. ii. p. 98.]
- Gallowglasses**, Irish foot-soldiers, partly clad in mail, i. 24.
- germins**, germs, seeds, iv. 56. [L. *ger-*

**men**, a sprig, from *gen*-root of *gigno*; Gr. *γίγνεται*, I beget.]

**god-eyld**, also *God ild*, *God-yeld*, *God shield* or *protect*, an exclamation of thanks, i. 362.

**gorgon**, ii. 204. See *Nota*.

**gospell'd**, full of, or skilled in, the gospel, iii. 86. [A. S. *god*, good; *spell*, speech, message. The word *gospel* is therefore a translation of *evangel*, Gr. *εὐ*, well, *ἀγγέλιον*, a message.]

**gouts**, drops, ii. 46. [F. *goutte*, a drop; L. *gutta*.]

**graymalkin**, a cat, or a hare, i. 8. [*Malkin* means (1) a spirit, (2) a maid-servant. Sc. *mauktn*, has the same meanings; but it originally means a hare, which should therefore probably be taken as the third meaning of *malkin* as well.]

**grooms**, attendants, ii. 114. [A. S. *guma*, a protector, from *gyma*, to take care of; the "r" is thus intrusive.]

**guilt**, offence, conduct which has to be atoned for, ii. 121. [A. S. *gildan*; Ger. *gelten*, to requite, to atone for.]

**guise**, fashion, appearance, v. 19. [F. *guise*; Ger. *weise*; E. *wise* and its compound *other-wise*, which is sometimes written *other-guess*; Sc. *gyse*, a mode; *gysear*, a mummer; *gyis*, a mask.]

**grief**. See *see-grief*, iv. 422.

**Harbinger**, a forerunner, lit. one sent to prepare harbourage, i. 276. [*Harbour*, from A. S. *here*, an army, and *beorgan*, to shelter. The secondary meaning of the word is any place of shelter; Ger. *herberge*; It. *albergo*; F. *auberge*, an inn or harbour for travellers.]

**harpier**, an imp, or harpy, iv. 8. [Gr. *αἰρῖαι*, (1) the snatchers, i.e., whirlwinds; (2) winged monsters; from *αἰράω*, I snatch; L. *harpys*; F. *harpie*.]

**hautboy**, an oboe, a wind instrument, somewhat resembling a clarinet, iv. 103. [F. *haut*, high; *bois*, wood.]

**having**, possession, i. 135. [A. S. *habban*; Ger. *haben*; Dan. *haver*; F. *avoir*; L. *habere*, to have or hold.]

**hermits**, beadsmen, those engaged to pray for others, i. 369. [Gr. *ἱεῖρας*, solitary; F. *hermite*, *ermite*.]

**hie**, hasten, iii. 84. [A. S. *higan*, to endeavour, hasten.]

**help**, helped, the old p. of *help*, i. 372. where it is used for the old pp. *holpen*. [A. S. *helpan*, to help; pp. *holpen*.]

**home**, closely, fully, i. 198. [The adv. *home* is really the noun, governed by

"to" understood. It is used as an adj. in *home-thrust*. A. S. *hām*; Sc. *hame*; Ger. *heim*; Du. *heim*.]

**hoodwink**, to deceive, impose on, iv. 301. [A. S. *hōd*; Ger. *hut*, a covering for the head; and *winclan*, to move often, to wink; whence also *wince*.]

**hurly-burly**, uproar, tumultuous stir, the noise produced by rapid motion, i. 8. [*Hurly*, from *huri* and *whirl*; *burly*, from *burr*, to make a whirling noise. F. *hurluberlu*, Du. *holder de bolder*, topeyturvy; E. *hullabaloo*.—Wed.]

**husbandry**, thrift, carefulness, ii. 4. [A. S. *hūs*, a house; and *buend*, one dwelling, a farmer, from *buam*, to till. It has also been derived from *bonda*, one tied or bound, from *bīndan*, to bind.]

**hush**, silence! iii. 10. [The word is simply the sound naturally made in enjoining silence; 'st. *hīst*, *whīst*; Ger. *bst*, *bech*; F. *chut*; Sp. *chito*. *Hush* is also used as an adj., in *hush-money*.]

**Incarnadine**, to redden, to die flesh-colour, ii. 126. [L. *in*, *carne-is*, of flesh.]

**inch**, an island, i. 74; usually a prefix, as in *inch-calm*, *inch-keith*. It is used as a noun in the names of two large meadows at Perth, called the *Inches*. [Gaelic, *Innis*, an island.]

**informs**, assumes a form or appearance, ii. 48. [L. *in*, *forma*.]

**instant**, the present, i. 334. [L. *in*, on; *stans*, standing.]

**intermission**, intervening time, obstacles, iv. 459. [L. *inter*, between; *missus*, sent.]

**intrenchant**, indivisible, that cannot be cut, v. 292. [*In-* is the negative prefix; Sans. *an-*; Gr. *ἀν-*; A. S. *un-*; not to be confounded with the L. prefix *in-*, into, in *intrench*, which is Sans. *ina-*; Gr. *ἰν-*; F. *en-*; E. *in-*, *en-*.]

**Jutty**, a projection, a window projecting or *jutting* beyond the main wall of a building, i. 355. [L. *jactus*, thrown; F. *jette*; E. *jut*; and *jetty*, a quay.]

**jewel**, a precious thing, "eternal jewel," the soul, iii. 66. See *Note*. [F. *joyau*, *jouel*; It. *giola*, joy.]

**juggling**, deceitful, performing tricks of sleight of hand, v. 302. [Old F. *jougleor*, *jugleur*, a conjurer; F. *jouer*, to play; Ger. *gaukler*; A. S. *geogelera*.]

**Kind'st**, most convenient, or proper, ii. [A. S. *cyn*, race, whence *kind*, the

- feeling appropriate to those of the same family; becoming, fit. Comp.  
 "A little more than *kin* and less than *kind*."—*Hamlet*.
- kernes**, Irish foot soldiers, armed with a short sword and shield, i. 24. Used contemptuously, perhaps because they were mercenaries, i. 44. v. 271. [*Keltic*.]
- Lapp'd**, clothed or covered, i. 67. [*A.S. læppe*; Ger. *lappen*, a fragment of cloth, a flap.]
- largess**, bounty, gifts, ii. 14. [*F. largesse*; L. *largus*, abundant.]
- latch**, to catch, iv. 421. [*A.S. læccan*, to seize; F. *loquet*, the latch of a door, dim. *latchet*. *Lace* is from the same root.]
- lated**, made late, retarded, usually belated, iii. 208. [*Goth. lata*; Dan. *lad*, lazy; A.S. *lat*; Ger. *lass*.]
- lease**, the letting of lands for rent, iv. 95. The tenant is called the *lease-holder*, or *lessee*; the landlord, the *lessor*. [*F. laisser*; E. *let*.]
- lees**, sediment, grounds, that which lies at the bottom, ii. 229. [*F. lie*; A.S. *lægan*, to lie.]
- leisure**, convenience, lit. vacant time, ii. 24. [*F. loisir*, from *laisser*, to leave, to let; whence also E. *leave*, *q.v.*]
- liege**, a vassal; but n. i. 234 it is a contraction for *liege-lord*, a feudal superior. [*F. lige*; L. *ligare*, to bind. But Wedgewood, following Ducange, prefers to derive E. *liege*, and *F. lige*, from Medieval L. *litus*, *lidus*, *ledus*, a man between a serf and a free man.]
- lily-liver'd**, white liver'd, cowardly, v. 124.
- limbeck**, contracted from alembic, a still, a vessel filled with vapour, i. 447. [*Arabic*.]
- limited**, special, appointed, ii. 185. [*L. limes*, a boundary.]
- line**, strengthen, lit. to cover the inside, hence to strengthen secretly, i. 188. [*L. linum*, flax, whence *linen*, much used for *lining* other cloth.]
- lodged**, laid (by the wind), iv. 52. [*A.S. logian*, to lay; Russ. *logn*, to place; *lay* is from the same root.]
- loon**, a rogue, a rascal, a lazy fellow, v. 120. [More frequently used in Sc. and spelt variously, *loun*, *lounn*, *lown*, *lounn*.]
- Magot-pies**, magpies, iii. 845. [*Magot*, *mag*, *madge*, a familiar name for magpies; *pie* from F. *pie*; L. *pica*; Sc. *piyot*.]
- mansionnry**, dwelling-place, i. 354. [*L. mansum*, to remain; Sc. *manse*.]
- marry!** By Mary! iii. 404. Comp. "By Holy Mary!"—*Henry viii*.
- marshall'st**, directest, ii. 42. [*E. Marshall*; Sc. *mareschal*, from A.S. *mare*, a horse, and *scalc*, a servant; hence it signified (1) a servant or keeper of horses (*ourator equorum*); (2) the master of the horse attached to the king's household, which gave rise to the titles of *Earl-marshall*, the eighth great officer of state in England, and *Earl-mareschal*, the commander of the cavalry in the royal armies of Scotland. Hence to *marshal* means to set in order, to manage, to direct.
- martlet**, the swift, or swallow, i. 253. [Dim. of *martin*, one of several kinds of birds named after St. Martin, as, F. *martin-pêcheur*, the king-fisher. F. *martinet* is also a dim. of *martin*.]
- mated**, puzzled, in the sense of checkmated in chess, v. 77. [*F. mater*, to mate; Sp. *matar*, to kill.]
- maws**, stomachs, iii. 292. [*Ger. magen*; A.S. *maga*.]
- measure**, a wine goblet, iii. 230, (See Note.)
- metaphysical**, supernatural, i. 305. [*Gr. μετά*, after, and *φύσις*, nature.]
- mettle**, spirit, courage, i. 458. [*E. metal*; Gr. *μετάλλιον*.]
- minion**, favourite, i. 80. [*F. mignon*; It. *mignone*, a darling; F. *menu*, small.]
- mortified**, ascetic, devoted to a solitary and harsh life, v. 88. (See Note.) [*L. mort-is*, of death; -fy, L. suffix, signifying to make.]
- mounch'd**, munched, chewed, i. 85. [Probably connected with F. *manger*, to eat.]
- multitudinous**, exhaustless, ii. 126. [*L. multitudo*, from *multus*, many.]
- murky**, dark, gloomy, v. 35. [*Dan. mørk*, dark.]
- murther**, an old form of murder, i. 215. [*A.S. morthor*; *morth*, death; L. *mort-is*, of death.]
- Naught**, a worthless thing, iv. 452. [*A.S. na*, no; *whitt*, thing.]
- newt**, a small lizard, iv. 14. [*A.S. efete*; E. *eft*.]
- nonpareil**, nonsuch, having no equal, iii. 238. [*F. non*, *pareil*; L. *par*, equal.]
- Old**, olded, become old, contracted for *caldd*, the pp. of A.S. *caldan*, to grow old, ii. 140.
- ope**, open, ii. 200.
- or**, before, iv. 898. [*A.S. or*, *ord*, the beginning, probably the same as the root of L. *or-ire*, to arise, *or-igo*, origin; Gr.



*before*, to rouse. This word *or* is quite distinct from the alternative conjunction "or." The word is frequently used in Sc. in the sense of "before," as indicating (1) priority in time, and (2) preference; e.g.,

(1) "And they that at the seige lay,  
Or it was past the fifth day,  
Had made," etc.—*Barbour*.

(2) "Therefore in aventure to dee  
He wa'd him put *or* he wa'd flee."—*Id.*

i.e., he would rather put himself in danger of death *than* flee. We find *or* *ever* together in the Bible of 1551,—“But we (*or* *ever* he come neare) are redy in the meane season to kyl him”—(Acts xxiii. 15). In the authorized version it is also “or ever” in this passage.]

**over-come**, pass over, in the lit. sense of the elements *come over*, III. 331.

**owe**, derive, I. 158; possess, I. 248; to be owing, v. 189; now used in the sense of to be indebted, to be bound. [A.S. *agan*, to possess; *g* and *w* are interchangeable, e.g., A.S. *maga*; E. *maw*; *sorg*, sorrow; *suga*, sow; *fugel*, fowl; *boga*, bow, etc. See also under *guise*. From the past part. *owen* (*agen*), is formed to *own*, (1) to possess, (2) to acknowledge. From the past tense, *owed* (*ahst*), is formed *ought*, (1) possessed, (2) as a present or future, is bound, or should. The accented *d* is preserved in the Sc. *awn*, *awner*. Comp. Gr. *ἔχω*.]

**Paddock**, a toad, I. 9. [Dim. from A.S. *pad*; Sc. *puddock*. This word is not to be confounded with E. *paddock*, an enclosure, which is a corruption of *parroc*, a park.]

**palter**, to trifle, shuffle, v. 303. [F. *poltron*, a coward; E. *poltroon*.]

**parley**, council, or meeting, II. 215. [F. *parler*, to speak.]

**patch**! a contemptuous expression for a person, a deceiver, v. 124. [It. *pezza*, a clout.]

**peak**, to become lean, I. 103. [A.S. *pyc-an*, to pick.]

**plight**, condition, I. 13. [A.S. *plihtan*, to pledge: *Plight* means—(1) the thing pledged; (2) something put in a state of risk, and hence the state of risk itself, or any unfortunate state.]

**portable**, bearable, snp-portable, IV. 314. [L. *porto*, I bear, carry.]

**possets**, potions of wine and milk, II. 70. See Note.

**posters**, quick travellers, I. 112. [F. *poster*, to travel; E. *post*.]

**pretence**, aim, designs, II. 306. [L. *pre*, forward, *tendo*, I stretch.]

**pretend**, expect, claim, II. 306. [See above: thus a claimant of the throne is called a *pretender*.]

**prologue**, introduction, preface, I. 204. [L. *prologus*; Gr. *πρῶς*, before, and *λόγος*, a discourse.]

**purveyor**, a provider, a victualler, I. 371. See Note. [F. *pourvoir*; L. *providere*.]

**Quarry**, prey, a heap of killed game, IV. 432. [F. *carre*, and *quarre*, a square.]

**quell**, killing, murder, I. 452. [A.S. *cwellan*, to smother, quell, kill; E. *qu*, and A.S. *cw*, are interchangeable, e.g., A.S. *cwen* = E. *queen*.]

**quench'd**, extinguished, II. 66. [A.S. *cwencan*, to put out, (1) fire, (2) thirst, (3) any burning appetite.]

**quarters**, directions, regions, I. 96. [W. *cwar*, a square; F. *quart*, *quartier*; L. *quartus*; from the expression, the four quarters of the globe, the use of *quarter* in the general sense of region has arisen.]

**Rapt**, taken, transported, I. 136. [L. *rapt-us*, seized: cognate to this is A.S. *reafian*, to tear away, whence *reave*, *sheriff*, etc.]

**ravell'd**, twisted, confused, entangled, II. 101. [*Ravel* is sometimes used in the opposite sense, to disentangle, to unweave; e.g.,

“Let him make you to ravel all this matter out.”—*Hamlet*.

**ravin**, to tear, II. 310. [A.S. *reafian*, to tear awry. See *Rapt*, above.]

**ravin'd**, ravenous, IV. 24. [A.S. *reafian*, to tear away.]

**rawness**, unpreparedness, IV. 257. [A.S. *hraw*, raw.]

**rent**, abs. rend, IV. 394. [A.S. *hrendan*, to tear.]

**ronyon**, a fat bulky woman, I. 86. [F. *rognon*, the hip.]

**rooky**, full of, or frequented by, rooks, III. 193. [A.S. *hroc*; Ger. *roche*, a crow.]

**Sag**, to sink, or to hesitate, v. 119. [The same as *sway* and *sway*,—to incline to one side.]

**say**, narrate, rehearse, I. 17. [A.S. *sagan*, to speak or say.]

**scotch'd**, cut with shallow incisions

which soon "close again," III. 158; wounded, as opposed to "kill'd."  
**seeling**, blinding, III. 187. [F. *Siller* (*les yeux*) to cover or skarf the eyes of a hawk.]

**shag-hair'd**, having rough, woolly hair, IV. 229. [*Shag*, from A.S. *sceaga*, a clump or bush of hair, whence also *shock*, in *shock-headed*. *Hair*, A.S. *hær*.]

**shard-borne**, borne on shards, the hard scales which cover the gauzy wings of the beetle, and which also bear it up in its flight, III. 183. [A.S. *scyrian*, to cut; whence also *shear*, *share*, etc.]

**ship-wracking**, causing ship-wreck, I. 37. [*Wrack*, like *wreck* and *wreak*, is from A.S. *wraeca*, to revenge; whence also *wraeca*, an exile, a *wretch*.]

**single**, weak, unsupported, I. 216, 365. [L. *singulus*, alone; from *sim*, one.]

**skir**, scur, scour, to move rapidly over a country for the purpose of exterminating enemies, V. 144. [A.S. *scyr-an*, to cleanse by rubbing; Goth. *scauron*; Ger. *scheuern*; E. *scour*.]

**slab**, wet and sticky, IV. 80. [A.S. *slippan*, to slip, to be slippery.]

**sleave**, silk untwisted, in its raw state, entangled threads, II. 100. [Ic. *slefa*, knotted thread.]

**slights**, n., arts, sleights, III. 390. [Ger. *schlich*; E. *sly*. The adj. *slight*, unimportant, is from Ger. *schlicht*, plain, homely.]

**silver'd**, split, torn asunder, IV. 28. [A.S. *silfan*, to rend.]

**solemn**, formal, in state, III. 14. [L. *sollemnis*, once a year.]

**soliciting**, encouragement, solicitation, I. 206. [L. *solicitare*, to stir up.]

**sore**, severe, troubled, II. 285. [A.S. *sdr*, pain, *sorh*, grief; E. *sorrow*; Sc. *sair*; Ger. *sorg*; L. *severus*; Gr. *εἰσέρεαι*.]

**speculation**, the act of seeing, III. 315. [L. *specio*, I look at.]

**speed**, advantage in haste, I. 811. [A.S. *sped*, progress; comp. Gr. *σπείδω*, which is probably connected with *σπύς*, as L. *expedire* is with *pes*; E. *foot*.]

**spongy**, bibulous, like a sponge, I. 450. [Gr. *σπώγης*; L. *spongia*; F. *éponge*.]

**stamp**, a coin, or piece of money, IV. 379. See Note. [Du. *stampen*; Ger. *stampfen*, F. *estamper*, to stamp.]

**stanchless**, unable to be stemmed, IV. 304. [F. *estancher*; L. *stagnare*, to stop.]

**still**, hitherto, in the past, III. 21. [A.S. *stille*, quietly, fixed.]

**swealter'd**, suffocated, as with heat, IV. 8. [A.S. *swealt-an*, to die, which is from *swealan*, to burn.]

**swoop**, the descent of a bird of prey upon its quarry, IV. 446. [A.S. *sudpan*, to sweep, pp. *swoop*.]

**Teem**, to be full, lit. to bring forth, IV. 402. [A.S. *tyman*, to bring forth. *Teem* is generally used intransitively; here it is transitive.]

**thane**, an earl, I. 56. In early English history, a noble next below the rank of ealdorman. The title was superseded by that of Baron after the Norman Conquest. In Scotland, where it was synonymous with earl, it continued in use till the end of the fourteenth century. [A.S. *thegn*, from *thegnian*, to serve; Ger. *diener*, which appears in "*Ich Dien*," I serve, the motto of the Prince of Wales.]

**top**, to overtop, to outstrip, IV. 283. [A.S. *top*.]

**topple**, to fall top foremost, IV. 53. [Dim. of *top*.]

**trammel**, to catch, as in a net, I. 883. [F. *tramail*, a net.]

**trenched**, laid open, like a trench, III. 246. [F. *trancher*; L. *trans-scindere*, to cut across.]

**Undone**, not done, I. 801. [A.S. *un-*, negative prefix,—see *intrenchant*—and *done*. To *undo*, usually signifies to reverse after being done; here *undone* means not done at all.]

**utterance**, extremity, III. 70. See Note. [F. *outrance*, excess.] We have another example of the change of *u* into *ou* in *utmost* and *outmost*.

**Vizard**, a mask, III. 175. [Another form of *visor*, *visor*, that part of a helmet which is movable, and enables the wearer to see; F. *visière*; L. *visus*, seen.]

**vouch'd**, pledged, III. 252. [N.F. *voucher*, to call, or bear witness.]

**vantage**, convenience, superiority, advantage, I. 189, 366. [F. *avant*, forward; See *Avant*.]

**valour**, strength of mind, intrepidity, I. 420. [L. *valere*, to be strong.]

**Wanton**, revelling, luxuriating, I. 266, where the adj. is used for the participle, *wanton*ing [W. *gwanton*, apt to run off.]

**wassall**, health drinking, jovial merry-making, I. 444. [A.S. *wes*, imp. of *wesan*, to be, and *hal*, healthy. The ear-

- Best notice of the custom is on the occasion of the meeting of Vortigern with Rowena, who, "presenting him with a cup of wine, exclaimed, 'Lord King, *woes-hwyl*,' that is, literally, "health be to you." ]
- weird**, skilled in witchcraft, i. 3. [A.S. *wyrd*, a word; comp. "fate" from L. *fatum*, something spoken (and irrevocable), from *fari*.]
- whiles**, whilst, ii. 60. [A.S. *hwil*, time, from *awylian*, to revolve; E. *while*, a time, in "a long while," etc.; Sc. *whiles*, sometimes. Comp. Ger. *swelten*, at whiles, i.e., sometimes.]
- wholesome**, sound, prosperous, iv. 331. [A.S. *hál*, sound; and *some*; Ger. *-sam* a termination denoting *quality*.]
- whose**, by whom, i. 215. [This use of the possessive to express the agent, must be distinguished from its usual genitive signification, *of whom*.]
- with**, by means of, by, i. 189; iii. 61. [A.S. *with*, near or against.]
- withal**, with, but more emphatic than with alone, i. 186, 306; ii. 120. [*With*, and *all*. It is usually an adverb, meaning "likewise, or besides."—(See iv. 273, and 1 Kings xix. 1.) In the text, it is used as a prep., and as such is placed after its object.]
- witness'd**, borne witness to, attested, iv. 410. [A.S. *witan*, to know.]
- wooningly**, winningly, i. 355. [A.S. *wogan*, to court.]
- wrench'd**, taken by force, wrung, iii. 61. [A.S. *wringan*, to twist, wrest, *wring*.]
- wrack**, wreck, ruin, i. 190. [See *Shipwrecking*.]
- Yesty**, frothy, raging, iv. 50. [A.S. *yst*, a storm; *ystig*, stormy.]

## ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THE NOTES AND VOCABULARY.

abs.	absolute.	interj.	interjection.
adv.	adverb, or adverbial.	intrans.	intransitive.
app.	apposition.	lit.	literally.
att.	attributive.	n.	noun.
cl.	clause.	nom.	nominative.
comp.	compare.	obj.	object, or objective.
conj.	conjunction.	p.	past tense.
constr.	construe.	pp.	past participle.
cor.	correlative.	phr.	phrase.
dim.	diminutive.	prep.	preposition.
imp.	imperative.	rel.	relative.
ind.	indicative.	scil.	scilicet, supply.
inf.	infinitive.	trans.	transitive.

A.-S.	Anglo-Saxon.	L.	Latin.
Dan.	Danish.	N. F.	Norman-French.
Du.	Dutch.	O. N.	Old Norse.
E.	English.	Russ.	Russian.
F.	French.	Sc.	Scottish.
Ger.	German.	Sw.	Swedish.
Goth.	Gothic.	W.	Welsh.
Gr.	Greek.	Hol.	Holished.
Ic.	Icelandic.	J.	Jamieson.
It.	Italian.	Wed.	Wedgewood.









